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Arab news

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VOL. VIII NO. 29 MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1982 RABI UL-AWAL 12, 1403 A.H. SIXTEEN PAGES

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TODAY IN Arab news

Accord reached
GCC finance ministers ended their two-day meetings in Manama Sunday with an accord to begin implementation of the articles concerning tariffs and customs as enshrined in the economic agreement signed last year to achieve integration of the Council States. — Page 2

Zimbabwe rebels kill 3
Zimbabwe dissidents kill three persons as they attack cars, buses and a train, besides damaging an important railway line. — Page 5

China spells stand
China says it will not be leader of the Third World and "any country which attempts to pose as a leader and control others will be spurned." — Page 6

Soviet economy
The Soviet Union's gross national product quadrupled over the past three decades, but its economy is now in a strong slide that began years ago, the U.S. CIA study shows. — Page 10

U.K.'s growth
Estimates on gross domestic product reveal that the British economy has remained stagnant during the first nine months of the year. — Page 11

England disappoints
But for Chris Tavaré and Allan Lamb who were involved in a splendid 161-run partnership England batsmen once again disappointed on the first day of the fourth Test against Australia. — Page 13

China greets Russia
The Chinese have sent very warm greetings to the Soviets calling them great, indicating that the normalization process is bound to make progress. — Page 16

Oman warns of Soviet expansionism in Gulf

MUSCAT, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Oman still feels the Soviet Union has expansionist designs in the Gulf region, despite Oman's recent signing of an accord with Soviet ally South Yemen, Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Al-Alawi said here in an interview.

Speaking to Agence France-Presse, Al-Alawi said: "Soviet forces can now reach the Gulf without any problem."

But he said that if the Soviet Union withdrew its troops from Afghanistan the Gulf nations would be able to "consider future relations with Moscow in the interests of peace and stability."

Storm plays havoc in U.S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP) — A storm that buried the state of Colorado in up to 12 meters of snow moved Sunday, leaving behind closed roads and airports and thousands of stranded travelers, as rain and record warm temperatures in many midwestern cities melted hopes for a white Christmas.

At least two persons in Colorado froze to death, authorities said. "It's just terrible," said Police Sgt. Mike Baker in Raton, New Mexico, on the Colorado border, as gale-force winds drifted snow as high as car roofs. "I don't remember a storm this bad."

Denver Airport, one of the nation's 10 busiest, was closed for the first time in almost 30 years and 2,000 stranded passengers slept in waiting lobbies. The Zephyr, a crack express train linking San Francisco and Chicago, was forced to lay over at Denver due to ice and drifting snow on the rails.

As the snow began to pile up, thousands of drivers abandoned their cars on highways and walked to safety before being trapped by the blizzard.

In Jackson, Mississippi, the problem was different. More rain fell in a single day than during the rest of December, and low-lying parts of the city had to be evacuated.

More than 30 tornadoes spun through the states of Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas, causing one death and at least \$10 million worth of damage.

Many Atlantic coast residents celebrated holidays in shirtsleeves, with temperatures in New York and Washington reaching 70 degrees (21 Centigrade).

Anti-war song angers Israel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (AP) — Israel television was criticized Sunday for airing footage of Israeli soldiers in Lebanon singing a morbid anti-war song.

Aharon Papo, a right-wing member of the Broadcasting Authority executive committee, claimed the airing of the song was insulting to Defense Minister Ariel Sharon and reflected the mood of a small leftist minority.

A group of half a dozen soldiers were shown on TV news Friday singing a children's ditty with lyrics altered to express anti-war sentiment: "Come down to us aeroplane/take us to Lebanon/to fight for Sharon/and come home in a coffin."

A TV spokesman said the matter would be discussed at a meeting of the executive committee Monday. She said Yosef Lapid, director-general of the Broadcasting Authority, had not received any angry viewer responses and did not consider the broadcast to have violated the objectivity of the state-subsidized network.

Greece to repatriate exiles

ATHENS, Dec. 26 (R) — The Greek government has said it would repatriate about 30,000 political refugees living abroad, mostly in Eastern Europe, since the 1947-49 Greek civil war.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said on television all Greek-born political exiles would regain their citizenship and be free to return as visitors or permanent residents.

The repatriation of all political refugees was one of Papandreu's electoral pledges before his Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) won a landslide victory in the October 1981 general election.

The refugees are the survivors and descendants of some 130,000 Greeks who fled to Eastern bloc countries in 1949 after nationalist forces vanquished Communist rebels in the Greek civil war.

Most of the 55,000 surviving refugees have long wished to return to Greece and believed when Papandreu's government came to power, the first left-wing one in Greek history, the way would be open for them to do so. About 25,000 of them have already returned, but only after passing strict security screening by Greek authorities.

Some police are known to fear that those returning could include hardcore Communists or spies but refugees' spokesmen say they just want to make a living in their homeland.

Peru's Andean zone mayor shot

LIMA, Dec. 26 (R) — Armed men shot dead the mayor of Andean zone before his family's eyes Saturday, regional authorities said Sunday.

Police sources said they suspected the attackers belonged to the shadowy Maoist Sendero Luminoso (shining path) guerrilla group which is plaguing the Peruvian province of Ayacucho.

Pedro Venegas, 35, mayor of Machenten, was shot at point-blank range and his body was thrown into a central street with a note saying: "This is how grasses (police informants) die." He was the fourth official to be attacked by guerrillas this month.

The Peruvian government dispatched 400 arms troops to the Andean zone last week, despite previous reluctance by President Fernando Belaunde Terry to involve troops in an anti-guerrilla campaign. No reason was given for the government's change of heart.

Kerman rocked

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Dec. 26 (AP) — An earthquake with an intensity of 4.5 on the Richter scale shook the Hashtadran region of Kerman province in Southeastern Iran Sunday, the official Iranian News Agency reported.

IRNA quoted the Iranian Red Crescent Society as saying the quake caused neither damage nor casualties.

The same general area of Kerman province, about 800 kilometers south east of Tehran, has been struck by several major killer quakes in the past two years that left thousands dead and wounded, leveling many villages.



King Fahd returns

RIYADH, Dec. 26 (SPA) — King Fahd returned home Sunday. He was greeted at the airport by Crown Prince Abdullah, the first deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, Prince Sultan, the second deputy premier and defense and aviation minister, several princes, cabinet ministers, senior civil and military officials as well as a large number of people.

King returned after an absence of five weeks during which he paid visits to Algeria, Morocco and Spain. He had talks with King Hassan of Morocco and King Juan Carlos of Spain.

During his three-day official visit to Algeria King Fahd discussed with President Chedli Benjedid the outcome of the Arab summit in Fez and the Arab peace plan for the Middle East. He also reviewed the efforts that are being made for a peaceful settlement of the ongoing war in North Africa. Algeria supports the Polisario drive to wrest control of the Sahara from Morocco.

While in Morocco, he also conferred with U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib, who is trying to secure the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Iraqi jets pound Iranian targets

NICOSIA, Dec. 26 (AP) — Iraqi war planes bombed Iranian air defense command and control centers in a series of air raids on a number of Iranian towns Sunday, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

Quoting an Iraqi high command communiqué, INA said the Iraqi jets flew a total of 74 bombing missions against military targets in the southern Iranian oil province of Khuzistan.

It added that military targets were destroyed in Ahwaz, Khuzistan's capital. Abadan, Dezful and other two areas, adding all the raiding jets returned safely to their bases.

No immediate comment was available from the Iranian side on the Iraqi claims. An Iranian war communiqué carried by the official Iranian News Agency, summing up activities on the battlefield with Iraq in the past 24 hours, mentioned no air raids.

Bus mishaps claim 11 lives in India

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26 (AP) — Eleven people died in tourist bus crashes in eastern and central India Sunday, the United News of India reported.

One bus overtaking another in Balasore district, Orissa state, skidded off the road, killing nine people, UNI said, reporting an accident 240 kilometers (144 miles) southwest of Calcutta. The bus driver and his helper fled the scene, the news agency said.

Two children were killed and a dozen people were injured when a trans-India tourist bus ran out of control near Hinghaghat, in Maharashtra state, 700 kilometers (420 miles) east of Bombay, UNI said.

Strategic issues stare Andropov in the face

MOSCOW, Dec. 26 (AP) — The Soviet Union faces 1983 with its economy nearly stagnant, with no signs that U.S.-Soviet tension will ease and the NATO alliance determined to put new American missiles in Europe by the end of the year.

The problems facing Yuri V. Andropov, only the fifth man to run the country in its 60-year history, are enormous. When he took over as party chief after Leonid I. Brezhnev died Nov. 10, Andropov said he had "no ready recipes" for putting things right.

Internally, he has wasted no time in ordering tougher discipline in work places and a crackdown on crime and corruption.

In late December, he reaffirmed Soviet determination to block the NATO deployment of 572 new American medium-range rockets in Europe.

During a speech marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, Andropov played the latest Kremlin chip in the bagging over the nuclear-tipped rockets. He offered to withdraw hundreds of Soviet rockets from Europe, leaving only as many medium-range missiles as there currently are in the British and French nuclear arsenals.

His proposal was quickly rejected in London, Paris and Washington. The allies said it would preserve the Soviet nuclear advantage.

Implicit in Andropov's offer was the shelving of NATO's deployment plan.

Gemayel tightens security Israel pullout talks to open tomorrow

BEIRUT, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — Lebanon is ready to begin talks with Israel next Tuesday after certain "obstacles" that delayed the start of the negotiations on the withdrawal of foreign armies from the country had been resolved, Lebanese state radio reported Sunday.

There was no official confirmation by the Lebanese government of the radio report but Lebanese officials have said in the past week that Lebanon wants immediate talks with Israel.

The radio did not elaborate on the "obstacles." Israel has insisted that a security agreement and normalization of relations be discussed during the negotiations. The Lebanese government has consistently said it plans to place the issue of withdrawals at the top of the agenda, and will not commit itself to a security arrangement with Israel at this point.

An Israeli government statement Sunday said the talks would begin Tuesday on Lebanese soil but did not say exactly where. Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan, speaking at a rally here Sunday, denied that an agenda or even a draft accord had been worked out with Lebanese officials. "We said no working papers as far as we are concerned," he said.

Wazzan said Lebanon's situation was more difficult than those of other Arab countries bordering Israel.

"Sinai stayed in Israeli hands for a long time but Egypt did not fall. Golan is still so but Syria did not fall. But the Israelis are in the heart of our nation. We are in a battle with time," he declared.

The Lebanese state radio said President Amin Gemayel had ordered the Lebanese Army to make special security arrangements at Khalde, a southern Beirut suburb named earlier as the venue for the opening session.

The army has already taken over the "Lebanon Beach" Hotel in Khalde, 12 kilometers south of Beirut, but fighting between Christian rightists and Druze nationalists in the hills surrounding Khalde continued Sunday for the fifth day.

The radio said Gemayel held meetings all morning Sunday with his foreign minister, Prime Minister Shafiq Wazzan and special U.S. envoy Morris Draper to finalize the agenda for the talks.

Reagan says Soviets taste Kabul failure

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (R) — President Reagan, marking the third anniversary of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, said Sunday the occupation was not a success and urged Moscow's new leaders to work toward a peaceful solution.

"The United States does not intend to forget these brave people and their struggle... We hope that the new leadership of the Soviet Union will take advantage of the opportunities the new year will no doubt offer to achieve a solution for Afghanistan," he said in a statement.

Reagan said if Soviet aggression were allowed to succeed in Afghanistan "it will have a dangerous impact on the safety of free men everywhere."

"Afghanistan is important to the world because the Afghan people are resisting Soviet imperialism... three years after the invasion the Soviet occupation... is not a success."

He said even with forces numbering almost 105,000, the Soviet Union could not control the countryside or secure many cities and had failed to rebuild the Communist-controlled Afghan Army or create an effective government.

"This is due to the spirit and will of the majority of the Afghan people and to the Mujahideen, the freedom fighters, who continue to resist the Soviet invaders," Reagan said.

He said the human costs of the struggle were immense and repeated his administration's charge that Moscow was engaging in chemical warfare in Afghanistan.

Cairo defendants deny plot

CAIRO, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — More than 200 Muslim activists Sunday pleaded not guilty to plotting to overthrow the Egyptian government. The pleas by 235 followers of Al-Jihad group brought the number of defendants pleading not guilty to 280.

The defendants shouted "God is great" Sunday when an electric fuse box exploded in the courtroom, forcing the judge to recess the session.

Before the disturbance, another 46 defendants pleaded not guilty to charges of belonging to Al-Jihad that allegedly attempted to topple the government after the assassination of the late President Anwar Sadat Oct. 6, 1981.

That brought to 90 the total number of not guilty statements since the pleading began on Dec. 25. Two hundred eighty defendants are present in the courtroom, and 20 are being tried in absentia.

The two small explosions about 30 seconds apart occurred in a foyer behind a partition at the entrance to the makeshift courtroom, originally an exhibition hall on Cairo's fair grounds.

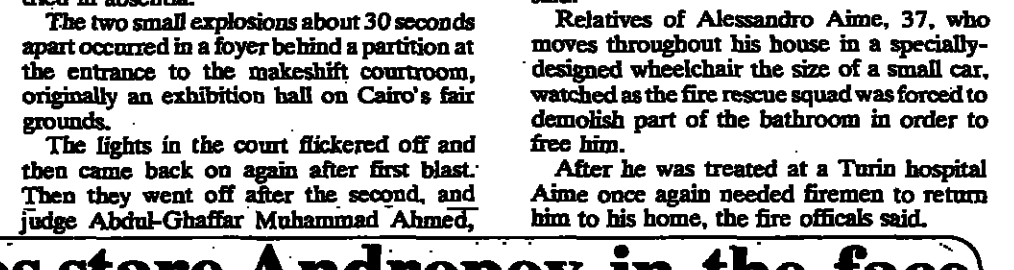
The lights in the court flickered off and then came back on again after first blast. Then they went off after the second, and judge Abdul-Ghaffar Muhammad Ahmed,

Fat man trapped in the bathtub

TURIN, Dec. 26 (AP) — A man weighing 280 kilograms (616 pounds) needed the help of the city's fire department to extract him from his own bathtub Friday after he slipped and was unable to get himself out, officials said.

Relatives of Alessandro Aime, 37, who moves throughout his house in a specially-designed wheelchair the size of a small car, watched as the fire rescue squad was forced to demolish part of the bathroom in order to free him.

After he was treated at a Turin hospital Aime once again needed firemen to return him to his home, the fire officials said.



Strategic issues stare Andropov in the face

For that reason, Soviet foreign policy toward the West will likely be much the same. The objective: Divide the NATO alliance and split the Europeans from the Americans over the missile issue.

Soviet propaganda can be expected to focus on European and American peace movements seeking to block the deployment in Europe and impose a nuclear weapons freeze on the United States.

Andropov's ascendancy after Brezhnev's death offers the opportunity for a Soviet American summit, but the Americans remain insistent that Moscow must alter its global behavior first.

Moscow, miffed at the United States for trying to dictate Soviet policy, he responded that it is a superpower and has no need to answer to Washington.

The U.S. administration says a summit could be arranged if there were positive signs from the Kremlin on Poland or Afghanistan.

Although most martial law restrictions have been lifted in Poland, a sign that the Soviets are confident that the independent Solidarity trade union has been crushed, there are no indications that pre-martial law worker freedoms will be allowed.

In Afghanistan despite heavy loss of life and material, the Soviets appear determined to wait it out. Soviet sources cite Moscow's patience in taming the unruly Muslims of Soviet Central Asia after the Bolshevik revolution.

NATO argues, however, that the French and British missiles are not an issue at the ongoing U.S.-Soviet negotiations in Geneva on reducing medium-range nuclear arms in Europe.

The United States has offered not to deploy its missiles if Moscow agrees to dismantle 333 new multi-warhead SS-20s, two-thirds of which are targeted on Western Europe.

Western analysts believe that the Soviets will offer no real concessions in the medium-range missile talks until the eve of NATO deployment in late 1983.

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GCC chiefs agree on economic integration

MANAMA, Dec. 26 (SPA) — Finance ministers from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) ended two days of meetings here Sunday with an accord to begin implementation of the articles pertaining to tariffs and customs as enshrined in the economic agreement signed last year to achieve economic integration of the council states.

The ministers also reviewed a report prepared by customs officials from the six states on standardizing tariffs and customs.

The council is made up of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

The GCC ministerial cooperative committee on finance and economy held preliminary meetings here Sunday discussing standardizing customs practices and coordinating investment, monetary and banking policies. Finance and National Economy minister Muhammad Aba Al-Khail lead the Kingdom's delegation at the committee's meeting.

In an opening address, Bahraini Economy and Finance Minister Ibrahim Abdul Karim said the formation of the "GCC" was a leap forward in the Arab contemporary history for the overall development of the region. He added that the council was set up on firm bases of Islamic faith and close bonds of neighborly ties.

Karim called on member states to abide by the principles of economic coordination and integration enshrined in the recently concluded economic agreement among them.

Saturday's meeting, which was confirmed to the six ministers alone, reviewed issues in the minister's agenda.

The ministers are scheduled to discuss the articles of the unified economic agreement relating to coordination of internal and external investment policies, coordination of monetary, finance and banking policies, and the steps to be taken to embark on the activities of the proposed Gulf Investment Corporation.

The meeting is also expected to review a report presented by the customs directors of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the UAE following their meeting here last Wednesday.

Farewell party next week

Chinese ambassador leaving

By Suresh Shah
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Dec. 26 — Republic of China Ambassador Yu-Chi Hsueh will leave the Kingdom in mid-January to take up a new assignment as ROC's ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

Hsueh represented his country in Saudi Arabia for almost eight years. While in the Kingdom he had a very successful career.

During his long period of service, the economic and political relations between the Kingdom and ROC have been strengthened considerably. The cooperation in the fields of medical, agriculture, industry, engineering and cultural exchange also increased rapidly, according to an embassy spokesman.

He told *Arab News*, the ambassador has arranged a reception on Jan. 3 at his residence to bid farewell to his friends and



Yu-Chi Hsueh

well-wishers in the Kingdom.

He said Wei-Ping Tsai will be the new ROC ambassador to the Kingdom.

Kuwait seminar recommends GCC coordination bureau establishment

RIYADH, Dec. 26 (SPA) — The establishment of a central coordination bureau for morale guidance and public relations departments of the armed forces in member

Earthquake relief meeting due Tuesday

JEDDAH, Dec. 26 — Makkah Governor Prince Majed this coming Tuesday will chair a meeting of the Relief Committee for Victims of the Earthquake in North Yemen. *Al-Madina* reported Sunday. The meeting at Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will be attended by chamber officials, members and staff and by prominent businessmen and merchants.

A meeting of the Makkah Fund Raising Committee for the same purpose was scheduled in Makkah Sunday evening under Hamad Al-Shawi, vice chairman of the Higher Fund Raising Committee. Shawi told *Al-Riyadh* that the meeting will draw up a comprehensive plan on how best to channel aid in cash and in kind to the victims. Saudi Arabian businessmen will be urged to make generous donations. The appeal will be addressed through the media and at seminars to be organized at the area's schools.

states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) was recommended during a seminar held in Kuwait Dec. 20 to 23.

The Kingdom's delegation to the seminar returned here Saturday. Delegations from all GCC states attended the seminar which decided that the next seminar is to be hosted by Saudi Arabia. Kuwait was named the temporary base for the proposed central coordination bureau which will later be incorporated to the GCC Secretariat in Riyadh.

Other recommendations included standardization of the names of departments in charge of morale guidance and public relations activities for the armed forces of GCC states under "the department of moral guidance and public relations."

The delegations which took part in the seminar were received by Kuwaiti Defense Minister Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah and Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Abdullah Faraj Al-Ghanem.

Quake aid collection exceeds SR415,000

TABUK, Dec. 26 (SPA) — More than SR415,000 were collected by the committee established here to help Yemen citizens affected by the earthquake disaster. The committee is chaired by Prince Abdul Majed ibn Abdul Azziz governor of Tabuk.

PLO says no serious rift with Syria

Lebanon's troubles made by Israel

JEDDAH, Dec. 26 — Rafiq Natsha, director of Fateh (the Palestine Liberation Organization) office in Saudi Arabia Sunday praised Saudi Arabia's support to the Palestinian cause and argued that continuation of the civil war in Lebanon was the best evidence that the PLO was not the cause of Lebanon's troubles.

Natsha told *Al-Jazirah* that he wondered why after the Palestinian troops were evacuated, "we hear every day of assassination attempts, bombed cars that explode and a blazing sectarian strife in Lebanon?" The civil war was already there in 1958 before the arrival of the Palestinians.

The PLO official said that the Palestinian commandos never left Beirut. They are still there in the person of Lebanese and Palestinian nationals forming part of the Lebanese people, but not overtly like before. All the troubles in Lebanon — past and present — are of the making of the Israelis, he said. And he expected an escalation of commando operations against the arrogant enemy which is still occupying Lebanon, the entire area of Palestine and the Golan.

Natsha laughed at the investigation into the massacre at the Sabra and Chatilla Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

"The inquiries are Israeli, the one who perpetrated the massacre was Israeli, the one who requested the investigation was Israeli and the judge is Israeli, so what else can we expect than an Israeli verdict?" he asked.

The official said he was absolutely certain that an independent Palestinian state will be set up at gun point. "not because the Palestinian people are particularly fond of bloodshed, but because the whole world has proved to us in practice that we have no other alternative but guns and sacrifices. Our blood will be the dowry — which we know to be expensive — of Palestine, dear to us and to all Islamic people."

Such a state, Natsha pointed out, could, as a first step, be set up in Gaza, "because we shall adopt and implement any political decision that secures one inch of our land. But we believe that Palestinian territory covers the total area of Palestine, not just a chunk. We do not reject a chunk, but it is not for such that we shall give up our well-known legitimate territorial rights in Palestine. No Palestinian official can accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338."

Natsha denied the existence of any serious rift with Syria and said that any talk about a confederation with Jordan would be point-

less, if the object is other than an independent Palestinian state and two separate political entities. He regretted that despite all the efforts exerted by the Palestinians, he could say that he is optimistic about the American attitude. He said that such an attitude and the Palestinian cause were still poles apart. The Americans, he added, seem to be neither talking, nor acting seriously. "In their statements, we find only very, very indirect hints about some of our rights," he said. "The big gap is not the deed of the PLO, but of the Americans, because they are far from right and justice."

The PLO official said that Chairman Arafat will visit Egypt, but that the date has not yet been fixed. As a matter of the visit would depend on political states to be made by Egypt to prepare a con ground for discussions which will take during the visit. Natsha said we (Palestinians) appreciate and admire the steps take Egypt, especially during and after the Le ese war, and expect that country to pre further in that direction and to free definitely from the strings of Camp Da



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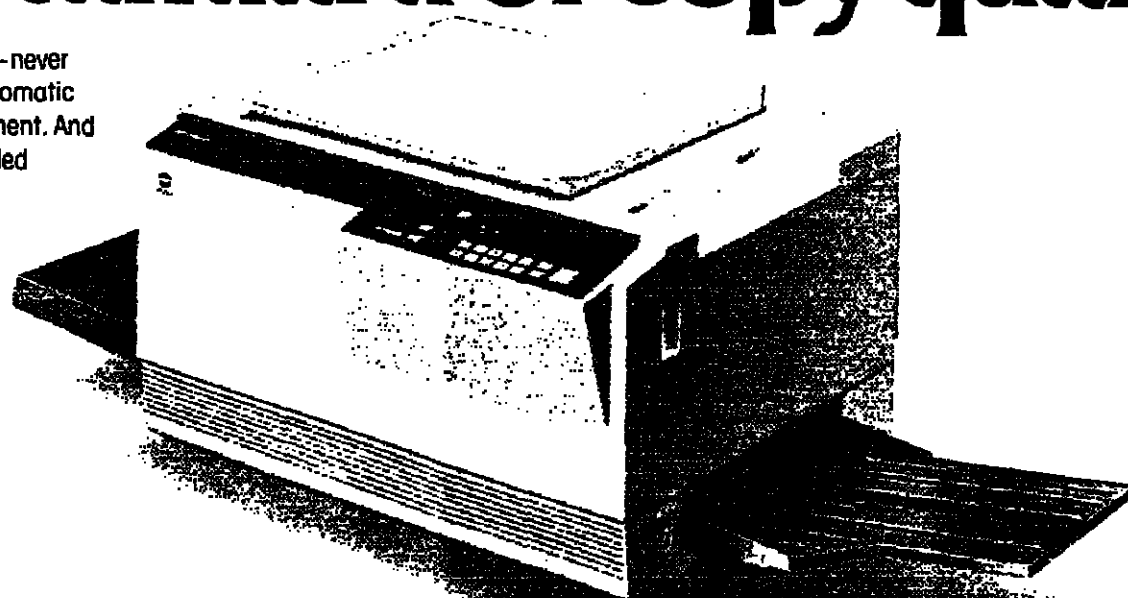
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APICORP directors approve budget, projects

ALKHOBAR, Dec. 26 — The board of directors of Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (APICORP) approved the 1983 budget at its 4th meeting for 1982 recently at the corporation's head office here. The meeting was chaired by Jamal Hassan Jawa, deputy governor of Petroleum and representative of the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by delegates from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and Libya. It reviewed the quarterly general activities report which included the progress of the Arab joint ventures under implementation or study. It welcomed the participation of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Arab Investment Company and the Arab Mining Com-

pany in the equity of the Arab Detergent Chemicals Company; an Arab joint venture presently under implementation in Iraq.

The board took note that the following agreements to manage and underwrite loans for projects in conjunction with Arab and international financial institutions were signed: A loan of \$60 million to be raised to \$75 million by the end of December 1982 to Qatar Petrochemical Company (QAPCO) was signed on October 24, 1982.

A loan of \$300 million to Gulf Petrochemical Company, GPIC (Bahrain) was signed on December 21, 1982. The petrochemical complex is designed to produce 1000 tons per day of methanol and ammonia respectively.

The board resolved to hold the next meeting on March 21, 1983.

Saudi Arabian students studying in colleges abroad total 12,000

RIYADH, Dec. 26 — There are now a total of 12,000 Saudi Arabian students studying in colleges abroad according to Abdullah Al-Husayen, director general at the Higher Education Ministry for Scholarship Missions. Husayen told *Al-Riyadh* that about 11,000 Saudi Arabian nationals have received government approval to study in the United States, France, Germany, Britain,

Canada and the Arab world.

The official said that there are about 1,000 students now studying abroad who are doing so at their own expense in the United States and various European countries. He said that during the past five years more than 1,000 Saudi Arabian students have successfully completed their studies and returned to the Kingdom.



Jamal Hassan Jawa

Literary club role in developing culture stressed

RIYADH, Dec. 26 (SPA) — A committee from the Presidency of Youth Welfare stressed the constructive role played by literary clubs across the country in improving and expanding the cultural base of citizens. The committee had just completed a month's field tour of all clubs in the Kingdom and submitted reports in which it evaluated their activities.

The committee said in its reports that Makkah's Literary Club is one of the most active clubs in the Kingdom. The Makkah club had organized 11 lectures, 48 meetings to discuss and improve the literary movement in the country and several seminars. The club also produced five books which are considered a real enrichment of the literary library in the Kingdom, the committee said.

Education administration uses computer system

RIYADH, Dec. 26 (SPA) — Girls' education administration here announced that it has started to use the computer system to provide salaries for its employees. Training for Saudi Arabians to conduct this job is under-

Prince Faisal chairs Arab football talks

DOHA, Dec. 26 (SPA) — Prince Faisal bin Fahd, president of Saudi youth welfare and chairman of the Arab football federation, has been nominated head of a committee which will make a tour of Arab countries to raise funds for the federation.

The federation's executive bureau, meeting under Prince Faisal here, took the decision on the formation of the fund-raising body.

He was also received by ruler of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Thani Saturday. He conveyed, during the meeting, greetings from King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah to the Qatari leader.

The executive committee set a date for the Palestine Cup tournament for August of next year. The tournament was scheduled for this year, but had to be postponed because of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Qualifying matches for the Arab Cup are to be held in 1983 and the finals of the championship to be played by September, 1984, the committee decided.

The Arab Champions' Cup is to begin between Jan. 1, 1983 and end by May 30, 1983. The committee approved the grouping system so all Arab countries are put into four groups. The first will include Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar; while Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Somalia, North Yemen and South Yemen will form the second group; Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania the third group; and Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Jordan the fourth.



Prince Faisal bin Fahd

Abha area schools number 441

ABHA, Dec. 26 (SPA) — The number of schools in Abha area have reached 441. Out of this number 322 schools are elementary schools, 81 intermediate schools and 38 secondary schools.

The number of students enrolled at various grades tops 46653 students, while there are 186 Saudi Arabian teachers in elementary schools, 327 expatriate teachers. Arabians teach 513 Saudis teach in intermediate schools and 988 expatriates and in the secondary ones 84 Saudi Arabian teachers and 88 expatriates. Moreover, there are three institutes for teachers' training.

Kingdom's role in supporting IDB lauded

JEDDAH, Dec. 26 (SPA) — Ahmad Muhammad Ali president of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) lauded the role played by King Fahd and the Kingdom in supporting IDB's activities. These efforts are part of the Kingdom's incessant efforts which stems from its belief in supporting any Islamic joint work. Besides it gives special emphasis on the economic role in building the Islamic community he said.

Dr. Muhammad Ali went on to say that the IDB is exerting its efforts to lay the foundations for the Islamic common market called for by King Fahd during the last Hajj season. This goes along the strategy adopted by the third Islamic summit held in Makkah and Taif early last year. In that summit the IDB received a shot in the arm when its capital was increased from 790 Islamic dinars to two billion.

Such impetus enabled the bank to prod its activities and paved the way for more Islamic work like establishing of the Islamic consolidation committee with the African Sahel countries affected by the drought. And the creation of a \$3 billion fund to finance development projects in Islamic countries and to which the Kingdom contributed with \$1 billion.

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| Fajr (Dawn) | 12:22 | 12:23 | 11:54 | 11:41 | 12:05 | 12:35 |
| Dhuhr (Noon) | 3:26 | 3:22 | 2:53 | 2:36 | 3:01 | 3:26 |
| Asr (Afternoon) | 5:48 | 5:43 | 5:13 | 4:56 | 5:21 | 5:46 |
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Lebanese opponents ignore truce appeal

BEIRUT, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — Ignoring appeals for a truce, Lebanese Christian and Druze militiamen fought battles in the hills near Beirut Saturday night.

Security sources reported sporadic shelling around the coastal town of Khalde, south of Beirut, where fighting broke out three days ago.

Quit Lebanon cry mounts in Israel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (R) — Several thousand demonstrators held a torchlight procession here calling for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon.

The protest was organized Saturday night by the Public Committee Against the War in Lebanon. There were no incidents.

Marchers carried slogans calling for direct negotiations with the Palestinians. Israeli troops have been in Lebanon since last June and more than 450 of them have died so far.

Two Israeli soldiers were wounded late Saturday near the Lebanese town of Aley on the Beirut-Damascus Road, the military command said.

The soldiers were hit when light arms and Bazooka fire was aimed at an Israeli Army vehicle. They taken to hospital in Israel, but there was no word on their condition.

Last week, five Israeli soldiers died in two explosions in Lebanon. Aley has been the scene of almost daily violence between warring Christian and Druze militiamen and Israeli troops in the area have frequently been targets for both sides.

Municipal strike cripples Tel Aviv

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (AP) — Eighty thousand municipal employees including clerks and garbage collectors began an open-ended strike Sunday to pressure the government into wage concessions.

The strikers are part of the country's 400,000 public service employees who have been demanding wage increases of 12 percent. Other sectors of public service workers have threatened to strike if wage demands are not met.

The Histadrut Labor Federation and the Labor Ministry were to resume talks Sunday. Histadrut officials earlier said the two sides were close to agreement.

The Phalangists' Voice of Lebanon radio said that Israeli forces had intervened Saturday night between Druze forces of Walid Jumblatt's Progressive Socialist Party holding Aramoun, and the Christian Lebanese forces in Khalde, just south of here.

Lebanon and Israel are due to open negotiations in Khalde Monday on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon. The continuing violence cast a shadow over the pullout talks.

Khalde is one of two sites selected for the talks which are to alternate between the Beirut suburb and Israel's northern border town of Kiryat Shmona.

According to unconfirmed estimates, up to 12 persons have been killed in the latest fighting. The dispute between Christians and Druze in the mountainous area southeast of Beirut began when the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in June allowed Christian militias allied with the Israelis into districts controlled for years by the Druze.

A truce arranged Friday by Boulos Naaman, a monk linked to the Phalangist Party, and Druze leader Walid Jumblatt collapsed almost immediately.

Beirut radio stations reported clashes Friday and Saturday in several areas extending from Khalde to the town of Bhamdun. Clergymen and newspapers appealed without success to the combatants for a truce.

"Will Lebanon ever know a festival without grief, and will the hope revived at the end of summer vanish with autumn?" asked the French-language daily *L'orient-le Jour* Sunday.

On Dec. 7 all 400,000 public employees stopped work for 48-hours in the most widespread shutdown in Israel's history.

Israel has been plagued by wage strike recently including walkouts by diplomats, university lecturers and demonstrations by the wives of policemen, forbidden to strike, by law.

The Histadrut is worried that inflation will reach record levels of over 130 percent in 1982, and wants to tighten the sophisticated index system which ties wages to the inflation rate.



PALESTINIAN EXODUS: Following the occupation of the west bank, the Palestinians have been steadily leaving for other states. Picture shows scores of Palestinians departing after Israel started settling Jews on the West Bank.

Exodus of Palestinians crosses 100,000 mark

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — More than 100,000 Palestinians have left the Israeli-occupied West Bank territory for Jordan and the Gulf countries since 1974, according to a bank of Israel study.

Experts attribute the trend to economic stagnation in the territory, difficulties in daily life because of the Israeli occupation, a lack of opportunity for inhabitants like university lecturers, and job offers from the Gulf.

According to the bank's study, the annual emigration rate from the territory — where Prime Minister Menachem Begin's government is pressing Jewish settlement plans — had been around 13,500 a year since 1974.

This compared with an annual rate in the five preceding years of just 1,500 a year, while the national statistics bureau indicated 20,000 departures in both 1980 and 1981.

The population in the territory — excluding occupied Jerusalem which Israel also took over in the 1967 Israeli-Arab war — had increased by one percent a year for the last

nine years, with a high birth rate, to reach 704,000 in 1980.

Israeli policy to harass Palestinians and settle the West Bank with Jews is not universally popular in Israel. Doves say it will kill chances for real peace with the Arabs, but anti-settlement demonstrations have not made much impact. Slum-dwellers complain the money should be spent on them. Opposition parliament member Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinui Party asserts that Israel has no legal title to the land for the new villages.

Today's new settler is more likely to be a politically unattached Tel Aviv accountant than a member of Gush Emunim (Bloc of the faithful) who used protracted sit-ins a few years ago to root Jewish villages in West Bank.

The early Israeli settlers in West Bank moved into tents and fiber-board huts, living the rough life of pioneers to establish a presence. Now private firms are developing small towns.

Rioting in Tel Aviv

Oriental Jews up in arms

TEL AVIV, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — Class resentment and ethnic hostility between Jews of European and oriental extraction, never far below the surface of Israeli Society, burst into the open this weekend in Tel Aviv.

Sephardic (oriental Jewish) activists went on the rampage Saturday after police shot dead a slum resident in Tel Aviv's predominantly Sephardic southern neighborhood on Thursday.

Shimon Yehoshua, whose family had built an illegal extension to its house, mounted the roof of the building and fired at police and municipal workers when they arrived with a demolition order. The police fired back, fatally wounding him.

Sephardic activists called the shooting a murder and vowed revenge on what they called "the Ashkenazi (Western Jewish) establishment."

The activists' supporters took to the streets in Tel Aviv's rich northern suburbs Saturday, wrecking scores of cars, and daubing anti-Ashkenazi slogans and swastikas on the walls of buildings, including a synagogue.

Police put a 24-hour guard on the house of Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat after he received assassination threats.

Askenazi-Sephardic hostility is not new in Israeli society. It was a central theme in the 1981 general election when Sephardic supporters of Prime Minister Menachem Begin violently disrupted election rallies of the opposition Labor Party.

Zhao's trip aims to better Rabat ties

RABAT, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang arrives here from Algeria Monday for a three-day visit to Morocco expected to strengthen the already officially "friendly" Sino-Moroccan ties.

The visit, the first by a senior Chinese official since Prime Minister Chou En-lai came in 1963, will also finalize projects outlined during Moroccan Premier Moustapha Bouabid's trip to Peking in February.

Zhao, who flew in Algiers Friday from Cairo, met several times with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid during his four-day visit.

Zhao's talks with the Algerian president focused on the Arab peace plan for the Middle East, the need to strengthen the nonaligned movement and the promotion of a new international economic order.

The Sephardic Jews, most of whom came from north Africa in the 1950s, they were discriminated against by the Ashkenazi-dominated Labor Party for years. Their overwhelming support for Begin was the main factor in his electoral victories in 1977 and 1981.

Despite the high living standards achieved by many Israelis in recent years, thousands of poor oriental Jews still live in crowded slums in south Tel Aviv.

Zia returns home

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Pakistani President Muhammad Zia ul-Haq returned here Sunday after a two-week tour of United States and Canada and declared that he was satisfied with his talks there.

Zia added that he also stopped in Abu Dhabi on his way back for talks with United Arab Emirates leader Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Nahyan.

Zia said he had completely recovered from a cold he caught in Washington, where he underwent a medical examination.

OIC chief hopeful of Gulf war end

ISLAMABAD, Dec. 26 (AFP) — The Organization of Islamic Conference is trying to prepare a new initiative to end the war between Iraq and Iran, OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti said here Sunday.

Chatti said the peace committee set up by the OIC was still active, and the first attempt to negotiate a ceasefire had so far proved unsuccessful did not mean that the mission had failed.

Ex-Turkish diplomat commits suicide

SANTA MONICA, California, Dec. 26 (AP) — A retired Turkish diplomat died after flinging himself over a 30-meter cliff, police said.

Ali Bolukbasi, 48, died Friday morning after apparently jumping over a cliff at Palisades Park onto the Pacific Coast Highway, police said.

Tunisia bans weekly

TUNIS, Dec. 26 (AFP) — A Tunisian opposition weekly has been banned for six months after publishing information considered "defamatory" by the state.

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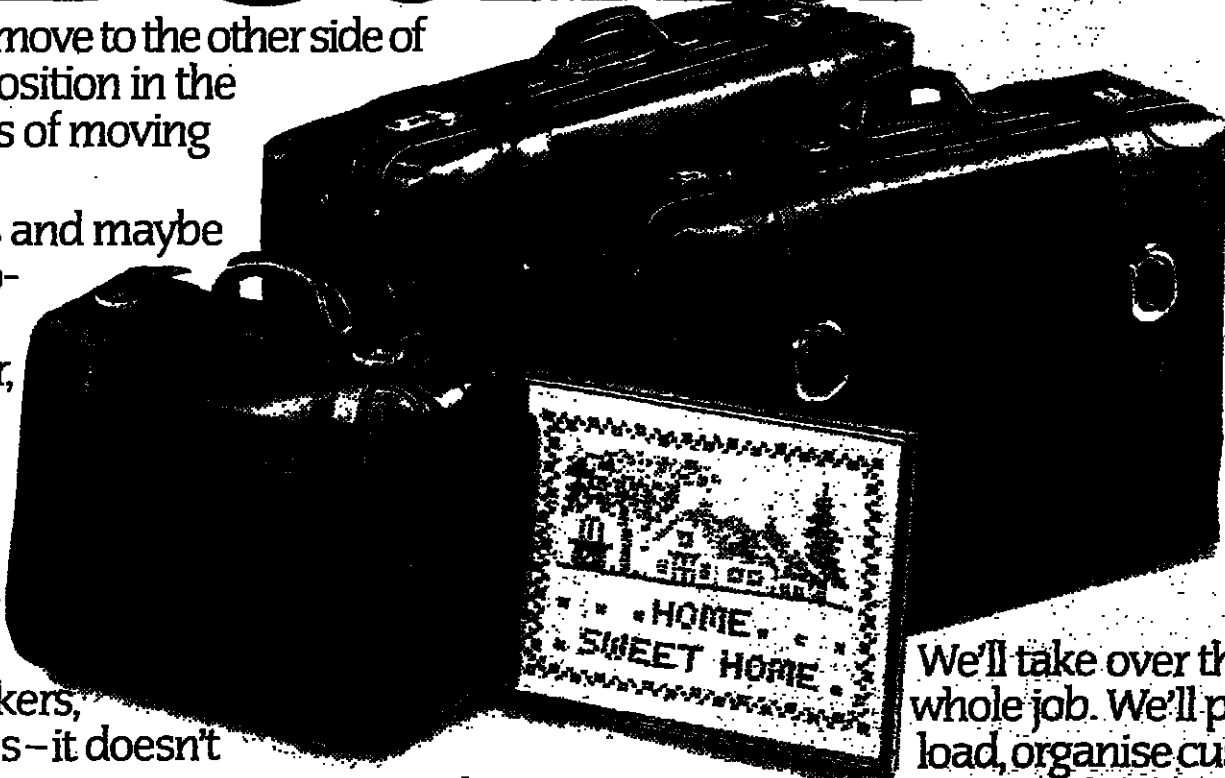
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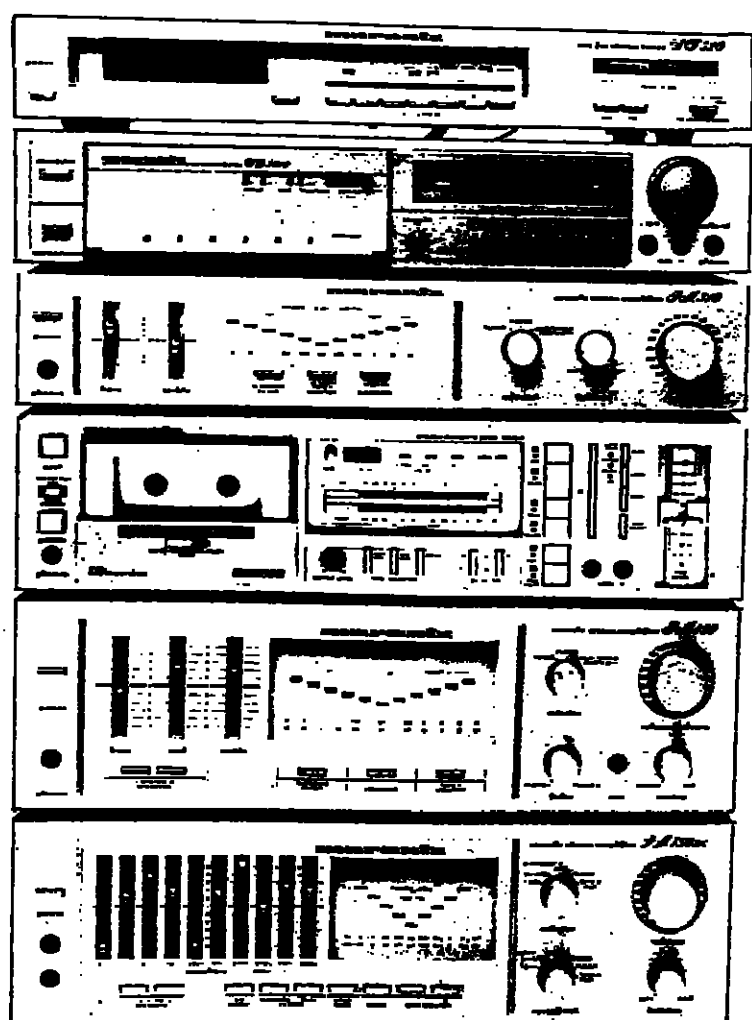
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Ethiopians under pressure**Tigray gives stiff fight to Mengistu**

ADDIS ABABA, Dec. 26 (R) — Ever since Ethiopia's origins in the Axumite empire of classical times, its rulers have fought to try to hold the country together in the face of periodic revolts in far-flung provinces.

What was true for the emperors also holds today for Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, leader of Ethiopia's eight year-old Marxist regime. Western specialists in Addis Ababa say that, while the 41-year-old colonel is now firmly in the saddle, his 300,000-strong army is still largely committed to anti-rebel operations in several widely-separated parts of the country.

Contrary to general belief abroad, it is neither in Eritrea nor along the borders with Somalia that Ethiopian troops now face their gravest problems but — much closer to home — in Tigray province north of Addis Ababa, the specialists say.

Although from a Western nation whose relations with Ethiopia are today cool, one specialist said it was mainly the combination of foreign support and sophisticated weapons which fuelled the revolt. "The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) would be no different from the bands which harassed the forces of Emperor Menelik II a century ago if it were not for foreign meddling," the expert said.

He said that bands of Tigrayan fighters, totalling 6,000 men and centered in the Sekota area, roamed in an arc of several hundred kilometers around there and were a main reason for the halting of Ethiopia's Red Star campaign launched last January against Eritrean freedom-fighters. The Eritreans, supplied by moderate Arab states according to several diplomats, have passed on large quantities of arms to the independence-seeking TPLF which is successfully harassing Ethiopian columns heading north to Eritrea through mountainous Tigray.

Ethiopia has had to divert forces to the region and close to 200,000 men are now scattered throughout the provinces of Eritrea and Tigray, the specialist said.

According to the expert, not a week goes by without ambushes in deep gorges and canyons which are a nightmare for supply convoys. Using modern automatic weapons and 81-MM mortars, the fighters kill up to 20 Ethiopian soldiers each time during brief attacks before pulling back under cover of rocks, dusk and terrain they know well, he said.

Some garrisons in the area are now supplied by air alone and it was only in October that government forces felt confident enough to reopen a major tourist site at Lalibela to foreign visitors. Up to 2,000 government troops are still stationed around Lalibela but the situation remains too uncertain to permit tourists to return to Axu, which is further north and was the center of the ancient empire, the specialist said.

He said Ethiopia has had more success in

asserting its power on the border with Somalia. Although the Ethiopian-supported Somali Salvation Democratic Front's (SSDF) 2,000 fighters are active against Somali government troops, the claims they issue often appear vastly exaggerated, several Western diplomats said.

One Western military expert, again no ideological friend of Ethiopia, said there was no evidence to sustain Somali charges that regular Ethiopian forces penetrated across the border this summer. "It is evident however that despite claims to the contrary, Ethiopian artillery and air strikes support the SSDF fighters from across the border," he said.

Somalia supports the anti-Ethiopian Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) which for its part is active behind Ethiopian lines though it appears it recently suffered a rash of defections from its ranks to the SSDF, one Western source said. Ethiopia and Somalia fought a war in the Ogaden desert in 1977-1978 which was launched by Somalia but won by Ethiopia with support from the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Three Cuban mechanized brigades of close to 3,000 men each with T-54 and T-55 tanks are still stationed in the area as a deterrent to any further Somali moves, the experts say. A 1,000-man Cuban battalion is also stationed at Debra Zeit near Addis Ababa but its men are rarely seen in the capital.

The Cubans keep well away from Eritrea where the world's longest freedom war has been fought for over 20 years. Cuba once supported the Eritrean fighters against the

3 die in Zimbabwe rebel attacks

HARARE, Dec. 26 (AP) — Dissidents attacked cars, buses and a train, killing three persons, a government spokesman confirmed Sunday. An important railway line was damaged in a separate attack.

The dissidents, believed to be loyal to former guerrilla leader Joshua Nkomo, stopped three buses, a moving van and some cars about 95 kilometers northeast of Bulawayo on the main road to Gweru late Friday. The government spokesman said the dissidents opened fire on the vehicles, killing two persons, and a third died later. The gunmen assaulted and robbed other passengers before setting fire to the buses and the van. The dissidents fired on a passing train, injuring a woman passenger, the spokesman added.

The railway track to Victoria Falls, which links Zimbabwe with Zambia and Zaire, was damaged when an explosive charge was detonated. Zimbabwe soldiers were searching for the dissidents in Marabaland Province, Nkomo's stronghold.

Nkomo's guerrillas, mostly Ndebele people, formed a loose alliance with insurgents of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, mostly Shonas, during the seven-year war to end

late Emperor Haile Selassie and they are clearly dubious about moving against them now. Some of the Soviet Union's estimated 3,000 military advisers are involved in Eritrea and there were reports of losses among them at the time of the Red Star campaign, launched last January to finish off the Eritrean fighters, Western sources said.

Eritrea is clearly a sacred cause among many Ethiopians who say: "The Eritreans are Ethiopians and Ogaden (the area of Ethiopia inhabited largely by ethnic Somalis) is part of Ethiopia." The subtle distinction indicates that while there is awareness here of a distinctive identity for the inhabitants of the Ogaden, Ethiopia will accept no compromise on Eritrea, the Western experts said.

The Red Star campaign, which saw the introduction in Africa of Soviet-built MI-24 helicopter gunships already active in Afghanistan, appears to have ended in a draw, according to the experts.

The experts estimate that Ethiopia lost 6,000 dead and seriously wounded compared to 4,000 dead and wounded among the Eritreans during the four-month campaign. The Eritrean Peoples Liberation Front (EPLF), a Marxist group, is the main rebel military force still active in the rugged northern province and they now have between 10,000 and 15,000 very well-armed men around their redoubt at Nakfa, Western specialists say. EPLF weapons include SAM-7 ground-to-air missiles.

The Ethiopian army, although unable to wipe out the EPLF, managed to bottle up its fighters in the northern corner of Eritrea.

white-minority rule. But there has always been friction between the Ndebeles, about 20 percent of the black population, and the Shonas, who comprise about 80 percent.

The tension, increased after Mugabe's party won a majority of the seats in the 1980 independence election. Nkomo has accused Mugabe of ignoring his contribution to the war, and Mugabe has charged Nkomo with seeking to overthrow his government. Some former Nkomo guerrillas have returned to the bush, following Mugabe's detention of their former military commanders. Nkomo has disavowed them. The dissidents, as they are called, have been accused of a number of attacks on civilians. But not all the attacks have occurred in areas loyal to Nkomo.

Cholera kills 2 Indians

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Two persons have died of cholera and 60 others have been hospitalized at Madurai, in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu, in the last week, officials said here Sunday.

Authorities had begun a massive inoculation program reaching some 70,000 persons so far, they said.

In Miami**Cuban stowaway battles for new life**

MIAMI, Dec. 26 (AP) — Clara Nunez, the 20-year-old Cuban stowaway whose battle for refuge in the United States became a rallying point for Miami hispanics, is struggling to adjust to American life one year after her arrival.

The 20-year-old's odyssey took her through three continents to reach the United States from Cuba before arriving in Florida on a freighter from Argentina a year ago Sunday. She is now working in a Miami factory, operating a button-sewing machine. "The first week, I broke 40 needles," Miss Nunez said, "but now I'm an expert. I like it. It keeps me busy."

Miss Nunez put all her dreams into getting to this country, without realizing that U.S. authorities would seek to deport her because she came in from a third country as a stowaway. Her lawyers claim she is a woman without a country. Argentina has refused to accept her. Federal authorities say Miss Nunez' case is still unresolved. "We can't move her any place," said Theodore Martinez, a director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. "You can't move somebody to a country if that country won't take her back."

Like other Krome parolees, she has no legal status in this country and remains subject to deportation. Parolees can work, drive cars, own property, apply for cash and medical assistance and receive an array of social services. But their status will "indefinitely" remain in limbo, Martinez said.

Miss Nunez was paroled from Krome in May for "humanitarian reasons" because she became pregnant. She had an abortion after doctors advised her that anti-depressant drugs she was taking while interned could have harmed the fetus. Living with her aunt in the Cuban exile community of Little Havana, she is saving money to take private English lessons and buy a car.

"I'm happy in the United States," she said, demonstrating some of the English she learned when she went to night school. "This is my first Christmas here, so I'm very touched," she said, switching to her native Spanish. "I'm like the children. I want to open all the presents under the tree."

Federal officials have rejected Miss Nunez's request for political asylum in the United States. She has admitted that she tried to become pregnant to help her bid to remain in this country. She said an American man

fathered the aborted child. She first left Cuba in 1980, stowing away aboard a Greek freighter that took her to Argentina. After her arrival, she was sent to the Kronic camp, which also was the home of several hundred would-be refugees.

Anger over her case and the quick deportation to Cuba of a young man who stowed away aboard another ship in January sparked demonstrations by Miami Cubans that were quelled when police tossed tear-gas into crowds near the city's downtown.

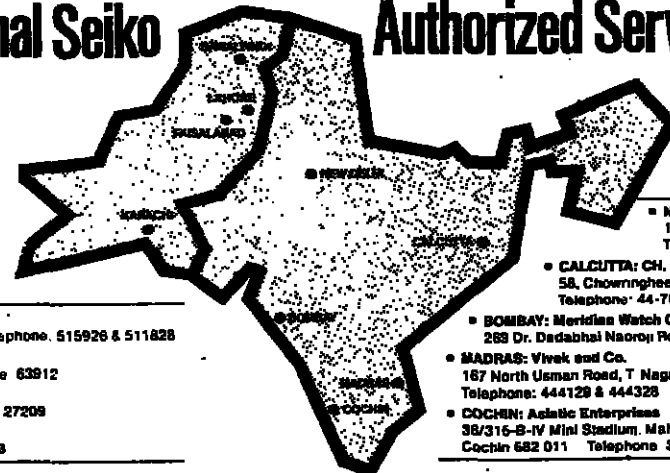
China to open eastern port

HONG KONG, Dec. 26 (AFP) — China's eastern coastal province of Fujian — the closest to Taiwan — will reopen its port of Quanzhou to foreign ships from next Jan. 1, the New China News Agency monitored here, reported Saturday.

The port of Quanzhou, which opened in the 1950s, is the third Fujian port to be opened to foreign ships. The other two ports, opened last October to handle exports only, were Fuzhou and Xiamen.

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China says it will not be 3rd world leader

PEKING, Dec. 26 (Agencies) — China is not and will not be the leader of the Third World nations, and "any country which attempts to pose as a leader and control others will be spurned," an official Chinese magazine said Sunday.

"They do not need a force above them ordering them about," the English-language *Peking Review* said. It said, "China has consistently supported other Third World countries in their struggles against imperialism, hegemonism and colonialism. It also has made great efforts to provide aid, to strengthen economic cooperation and exchanges with them and to encourage learning from each other and supplying each other's needs on the basis of equality."

"Because our relations with other Third World countries have been guided by these policies, we are respected and trusted by their governments and peoples, for which we feel honored," the magazine added.

The *Peking Review* said the Third World nations have freed themselves from "foreign yokes" and all, big or small, are political equals that "should have no leader-follower relations among them." "On some worldwide issues, they support and cooperate with each other, thus influencing international relations to move in the direction of democracy and equality," it said.

It added, "although China is a big country, it has never sought a special position in the Third World. It is not the leader of the Third World today, nor will it be tomorrow, because this kind of 'leadership' does not conform to the principles guiding its foreign relations."

Meanwhile, China marked the 89th anniversary of the birth of Mao Tse-tung Sunday with an attack on extreme leftists still opposed to moderate policies implemented

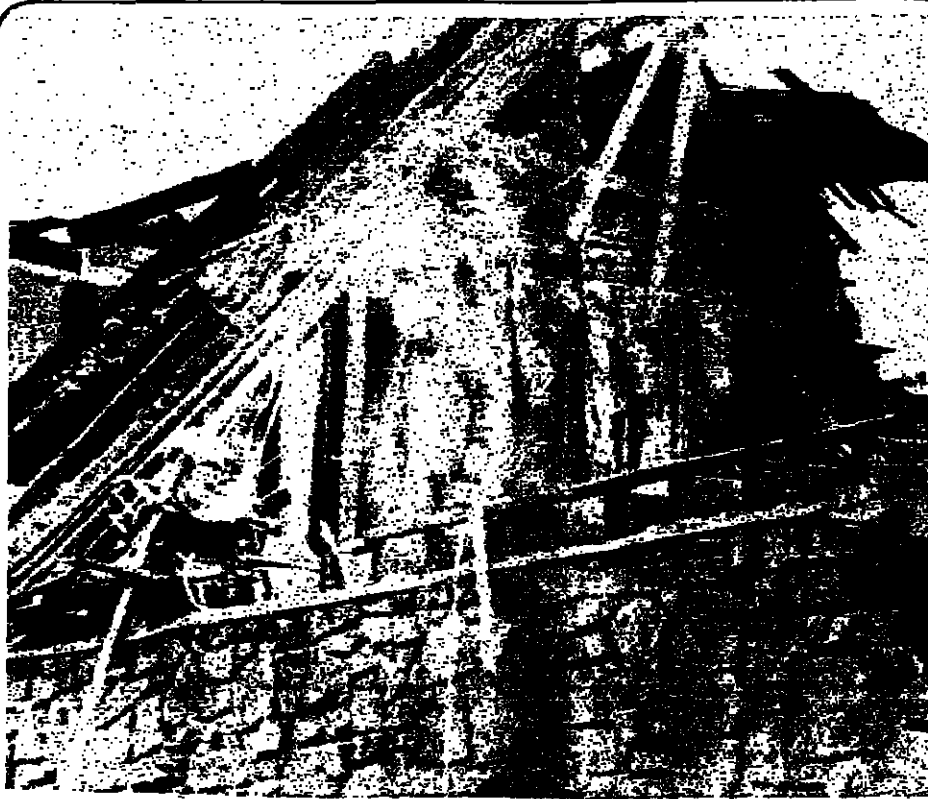
since the chairman's death. The Communist Party newspaper *People's Daily* said: "some comrades even now do not fully understand why the party line, direction and policies...are completely correct, or why the people of the entire country enthusiastically support them." The paper was commenting on the publication of 17 articles and speeches by Mao, two of them for the first time. It did not refer directly to the anniversary of his birth.

One of the newly-reprinted articles includes the slogan "without investigating a matter, you have no right to speak about it," a favorite saying of pragmatists such as China's present strongman, Deng Xiaoping. That slogan was rarely heard in the last years of Mao's life, when dogmatic extreme leftists took control with the chairman's blessing.

How to evaluate Mao's contribution to the Chinese revolution has been one of the most sensitive problems facing Deng and his associates since his death in 1976. Last year, after intense debate, the party published a definitive appraisal which declared that Mao's merits outweighed his faults, but strongly attacked him for wildly unrealistic policies in the last 20 years of his life.

The report singled out for special criticism the decade-long cultural revolution which Mao launched in 1966 and which resulted in the deaths or persecution of millions of people who was accused of being spies or having "bourgeois" ideas. It said the cultural revolution "brought catastrophe to the party, the state and the whole people," and blamed Mao for allowing the personality cult which surrounded him to be "frenziedly pushed to an extreme."

Last year, China marked the anniversary of Mao's birth by publishing an article praising him for his tolerance and broad intellect.



SURVEYING DAMAGE: Don Robinson surveys what is left of his house after a tornado struck Tulsa, Oklahoma, Friday. Civil defense authorities put the damage at \$1 million.

Sikh students begin hunger strike

NEW DELHI, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Eleven Sikh students who are detained in connection with the Sikh autonomy movement in northwestern Punjab state Saturday went on an indefinite hunger strike in a jail at Amritsar, the Press Trust of India reported.

Father, son murdered

PALERMO, Italy, Dec. 26 (AFP) — A father and son were murdered with a sawed-off shotgun here Saturday night in what police termed a Mafia killing, raising to 143 the number of Mafia-related deaths in this Sicilian capital since the beginning of the year.

Police said the murders were linked to rivalry between Mafia families.

western Punjab state Saturday went on an indefinite hunger strike in a jail at Amritsar, the Press Trust of India reported.

An official of the All-India Sikh Students' Federation (AISSF) said in a press statement there that the detainees' action aimed to protest against "inhuman behavior" by jail officials. The statement said they were assaulted by prison guards Friday night, but the charges were denied by authorities, PTI said. AISSF reportedly gives active support to the movement launched by the Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, which is demanding greater autonomy for Punjab.

America likely to seek relations with Albania

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP) — The United States will try for the third time in nine years to make an overture toward establishing relations with the Communist government of Albania, *The New York Times* reported Sunday.

Under consideration is a plan to propose, together with Britain and France, negotiations on the return of \$36 million in gold taken from Albania by Italian forces during World War II in exchange for its agreement to settle claims with the three allies, senior administration officials told *The Times*.

The gold was taken by German forces in 1943 during their occupation of Italy and recovered by the allies in a salt mine in Germany. Communist partisans took over Albania in 1944 and they allied with the Soviet Union.

However, Enver Hoxha, leader of the Albanian Communist Party since 1944, severed relations with the Soviets in 1960 over de-Stalinization policies. *The Times* said State Department officials believe the Soviet Union is making overtures to renew political ties with Albania following an amicable speech by Soviet President Yuri V. Andropov on Nov. 29, Albania's 38th anniversary of liberation from fascist occupation.

In April 1973, then-Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Rush said in a speech that if Albania was to show interest in talks with the United States, "it will find us prepared to respond," according to *The Times*. The newspaper said a similar overture was repeated seven years later by another State Department official.

Central French city flooded

MACON, France, Dec. 26 (AP) — Year-end festival was interrupted for the second consecutive year in this east central French city where the flooding Saone River plunged the downtown area under 50 centimeters of water Saturday.

Other rain-swollen rivers throughout France, however, continued subsiding Saturday.

6 die of suffocation
LA CORUNA, Spain, Dec. 26 (R) — Six persons, including three children, suffocated to death in a blazing houseboat in this northwest Spanish port Saturday, police sources said.

A couple both aged 31, their children aged nine, five and two, and a man friend aged 48 who joined them for a party were trapped in the moored fishing vessel, the sources said.

day after a week of flooding that had forced thousands of families to either evacuate their homes for several days or live amid several inches of water.

On Christmas Day, the worst hit area was around Macon, a city of 40,000 persons about 350 kilometers southeast of Paris. In Paris, the Seine River has risen above its banks during the past week, forcing the closure of river-side expressways. No homes were threatened in the French capital, however, and only a handful of families living in boats along the Seine had to abandon home.

In Macon, the situation was more dramatic. "The floods cut into our festival sales," said one clothing merchant in Macon, where officials installed wooden foot-bridges across downtown streets.

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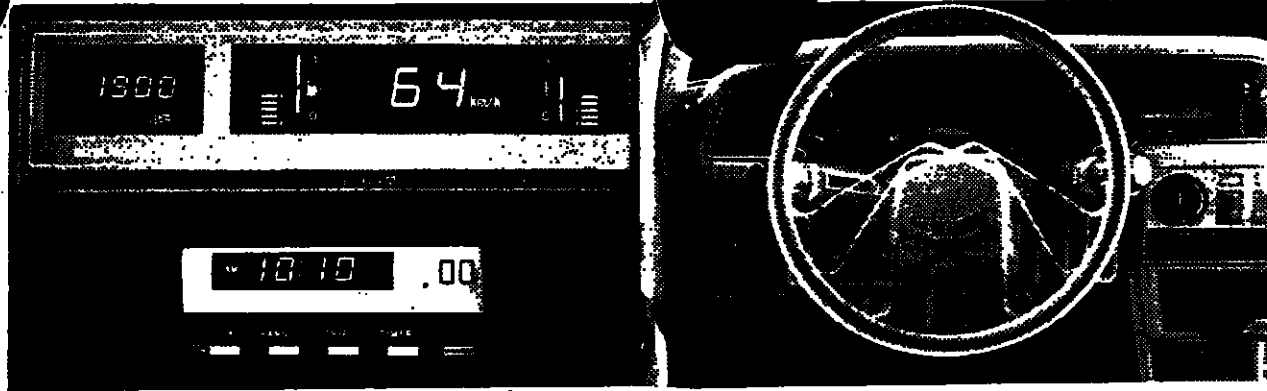
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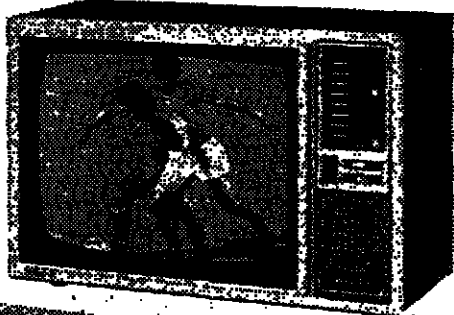
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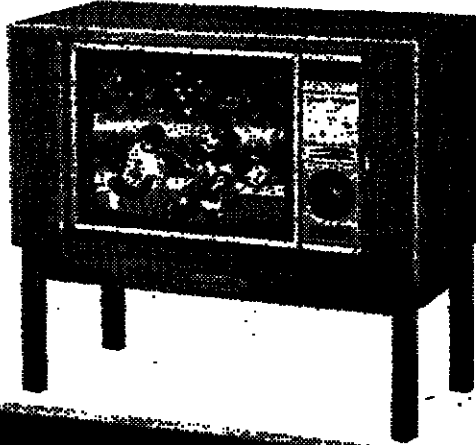
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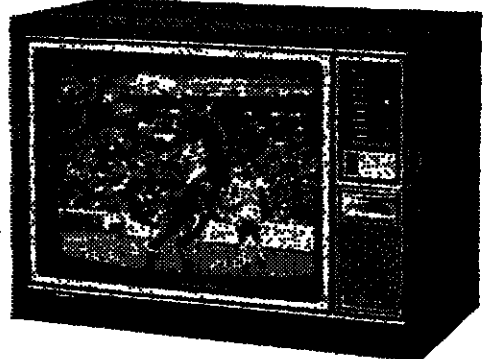
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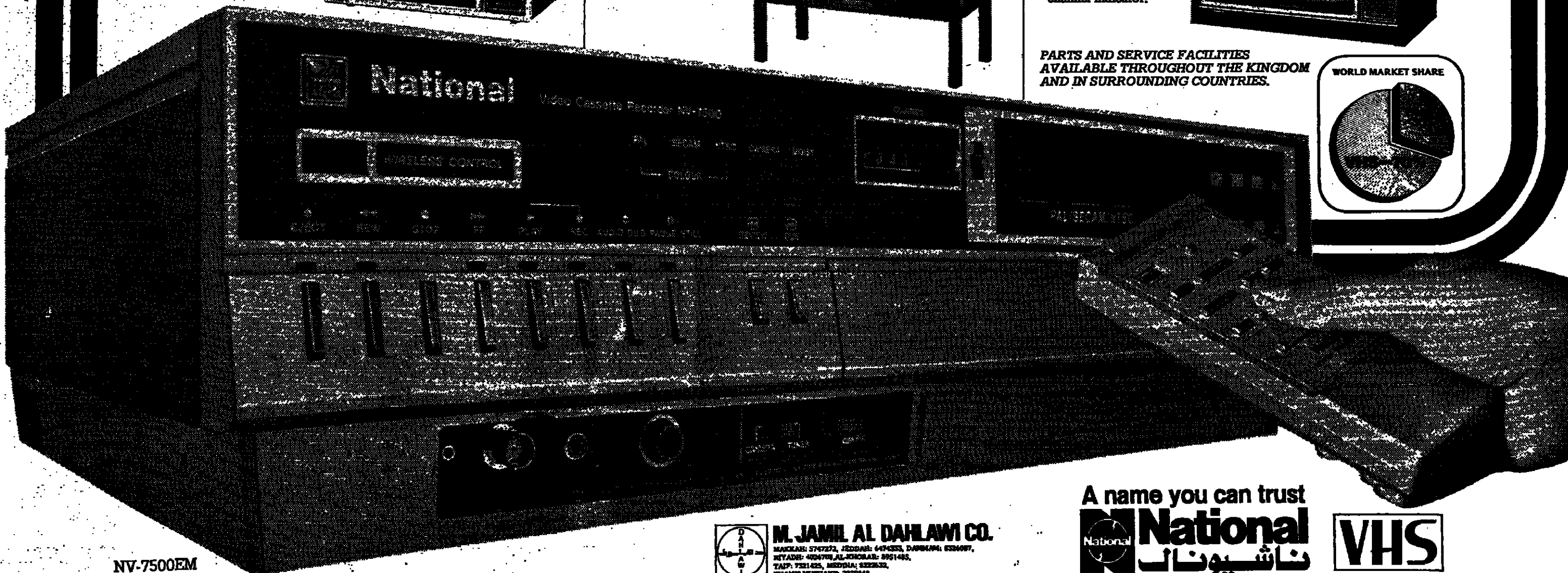
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CONSCIENCE PRISONERS

One of the worst fates to happen to anybody is to be imprisoned, detained, killed or made to disappear for his or her views when they happen to be at variance with those of the government in power.

There are thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands of political detainees described by Amnesty International as "prisoners of conscience," just because they had the courage, or it is the misfortune, to express their views loudly. As these views did not go too well with the party or person in control of their countries, they ended behind bars or even worse.

As the year comes to a close, we should spare a thought to the hapless victims of party or personal despotism in all its forms. They are treated as criminals when they are farthest from crime. They are tortured and murdered in the dead of the night when they should have been honored for their courage and patriotism for they meant well and wanted to do something good for their countries and people.

Amnesty has done wonders for these prisoners of conscience although it has by no means reduced the number of detainees and "disappearances." But it has accomplished the distinction of making tyrants ashamed of admitting that they have such prisoners and has successfully highlighted the plight of those who suffer because they say something that their governments do not like.

The worst offenders are of course the Latin American dictatorships which have been guilty of awesome brutality and ruthless liquidation of suspects and even innocent relatives of those believed to detest the regimes. The mass graves that are being disinterred regularly in some of these countries are evidence of the insanity of such regimes.

There is one solace, if any, in the tragedy of these mass disappearances and graves. Perhaps, the poor victims who were murdered may have contributed to the alleviation of suffering in their societies by giving their lives in return.

They, like others elsewhere in the world, have made disappearances a dirty word. Hopefully, some day will come when political detention will also become an unspeakable crime.

Saudi Arabian press review

Okaz Sunday called on the U.S. to implement President Ronald Reagan's peace proposals to resolve the Middle East conflict and take measures to prevent Israel from establishing new settlements on Arab lands. It said it was not enough for the U.S. administration to repeat its commitment toward Reagan's peace proposals but it should take further steps in putting these proposals into practical effect.

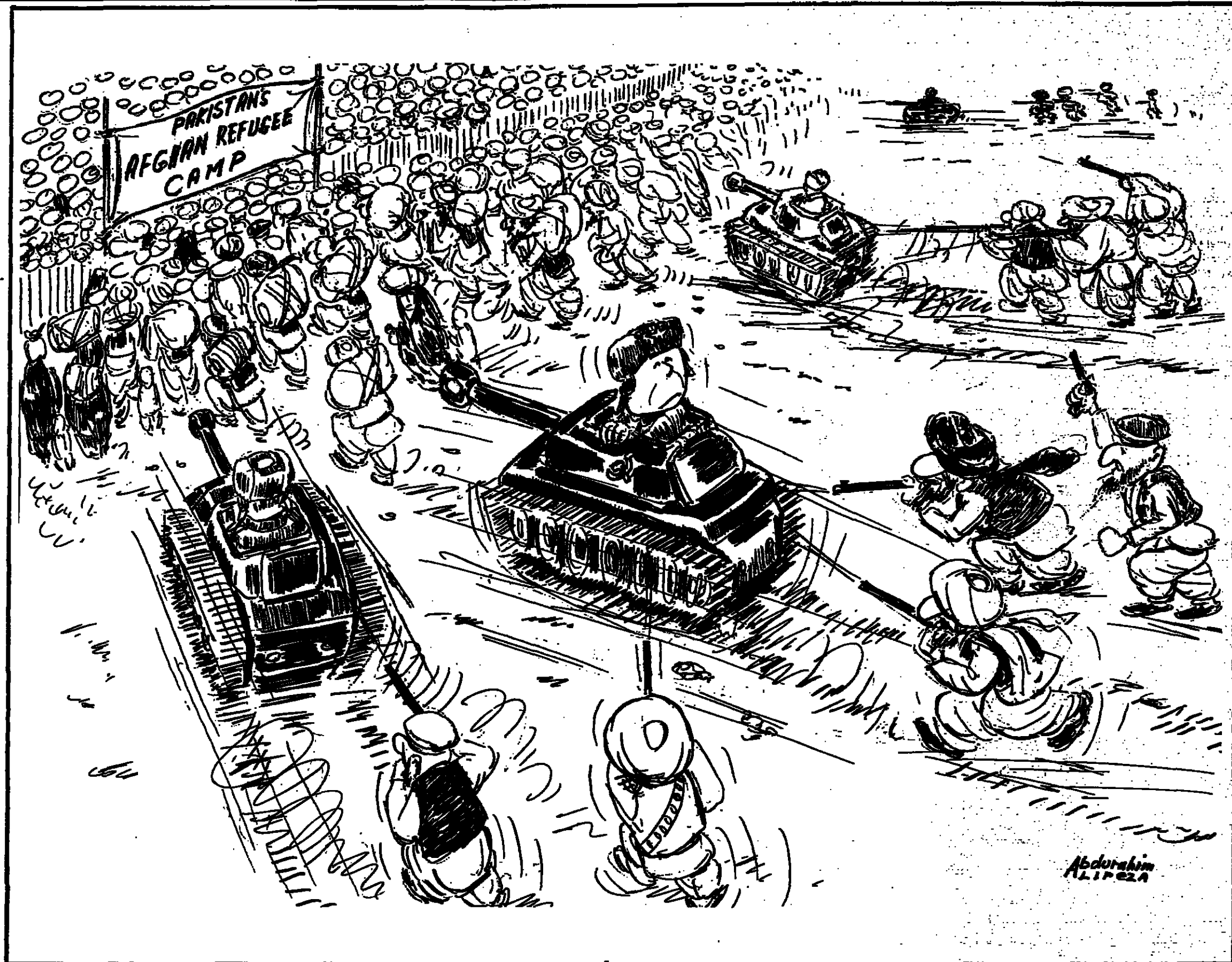
The paper added that the administration should exert pressures on Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and his Defense Minister Ariel Sharon to abide by peace and recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Al-Madinah warned against the dangers of factional fighting in Lebanon which it said ultimately served the interests of the enemy. The paper said Lebanon had become a scene of Israeli conspiracies and maneuvers. It deplored the opening of a new front by Israel in the mountainous area of Al-Shouf and said it was a Zionist tactical move to engulf the

whole country.

Al-Jazirah strongly condemned the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and its suppression of Afghan Muslims on the eve of the third anniversary of the Soviet occupation of the country. The paper called on the Islamic nation to extend all possible help and support to the Afghan Muslims in the just struggle to "liberate their country from the yoke of Communists and free their upcoming generations from the dark future which awaits them as a result of the Soviet occupation."

The paper said the Soviets were determined to spread communism in Afghanistan and force its people to abandon their Islamic faith at any cost in view of the Soviet policy to prolong the stay of the Red Army in the country despite great losses both in equipment and lives. It added that the Soviets were not building their armed forces due to possible threats from the U.S. or Europe but the main aim of making the Red Army powerful was to impose communism in many parts of the world. (SPA)



Namibian issue makes '83 critical year for S. Africa

By David Reid

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa, ending 1982 under a barrage of criticism for its commando raid into Lesotho and its stand on independence for Namibia (South West Africa), seems to be facing a critical year ahead. The early months of 1983 could prove crucial. Western diplomats believe, not only for achieving an internationally-acceptable settlement in Namibia, the former German colony ruled by South Africa in defiance of world opinion, but also for Prime Minister P. W. Botha's cautious drive for race reforms at home. One of the highlights of 1982 was the first direct government contact between South Africa and Angolan guerrillas fighting white rule and base of an estimated 18,000 Cuban troops supporting the Marxist rulers in Luanda.

This month's meeting in the Cape Verde Islands is expected to be followed by another at a time and place still to be decided. But the fact that the two sides met at all is considered a hopeful sign that the current imbroglio over the Cuban presence might be solved. A formula agreeable to both sides — as well as to the black African states, Cuba and the Soviet Union — would clear the way to peace in a Bush war which has dragged on for nearly 17 years.

And it could lead to a new era of stability in Southern Africa, in the view of most diplomats in Johannesburg. The five Western contact group nations — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada — which have been striving to speed a Namibian settlement abstained in the

U.N. General Assembly votes against South Africa on Namibia.

Western spokesmen including President Reagan have declared their continued optimism that a settlement will be reached, while South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha has put the chances of overcoming the Cuban problem as "50 percent plus." On the other hand, the raid on Vaseru, described by Pretoria as a pre-emptive strike against African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla bases there, could prove yet another complication in the tortuous road to peace in Namibia.

The unanimous Security Council vote condemning the raid — taken before South African Ambassador David Steward was allowed to put his case — angered South Africa and reinforced its contention that the U.N. cannot be trusted as an impartial supervisor of free elections planned for an independent Namibia.

It was this distrust of the U.N., which regards the guerrilla South West Africa People's Organization as sole legal representative of the Namibian people, that wrecked the Geneva conference on implementing the peace plan nearly two years ago. However, South African officials argue that the Vaseru raid, like a similar operation in the suburbs of Vaputo, the Mozambican capital, in January 1981 and a series of raids against SWAPO bases in Angola, was aimed at protecting the people of South Africa and Namibia, black and white, against Communist-inspired subversion and terrorism.

The South Africans reject charges that it is they who are seeking to destabilize the region and say they are ready at any time to sign non-aggression

pacts with their neighbors.

These views were doubtless conveyed by Prime Minister Botha to Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda at their meeting on the South African-Botswana border last April and again when Foreign Minister P. W. Botha had a surprise border meeting with Mozambique officials this month following the talks with the Angolans. What happens in Namibia, which has only about 75,000 whites in a population of more than one million, could also affect the political future of South Africa.

Botha and his National Party are anxious to see a Namibian settlement that would instal a democratically-elected and friendly government in Namibia. Anything else, especially the prospect of "the red flag flying over Windhoek," as Botha put it, would be seized on by right-wing opponents as selling the whites in Namibia, mostly Afrikaners, down the river.

A testing time for Botha will come at the end of February when the term of office of the present National Assembly in Namibia is due to expire after a three-month extension. Botha reluctantly agreed to the extension after an apparent bid to dislodge the Namibian political leader Dirk Mudge, a white farmer, and replace him with a black politician thought to have a better chance of leading anti-SWAPO forces to victory at the polls.

What happens if no settlement is in the offing at the end of February is still uncertain. South Africa might resort to another round of internal elections like those that brought Mudge's multi-racial Democratic Turnhalle Alliance to power in November 1978. These polls were not recognized

internationally, and are unlikely to be any more acceptable in 1983. They would risk delaying a settlement even further, increasing tensions in the region.

At home, Botha is awaiting vital decisions by the coloured (mixed race) and Asian communities in January on his proposals for a sharing of white power with the two groups in a three-chamber parliament. The prime minister badly needs their support before the proposals go before parliament.

Botha's hand has been strengthened by recent by-election victories over both the right-wing rebel conservatives who broke away from the National Party last March and the extreme right as represented by the Herligte Nasionale Party. The latest of a series of opinion polls also backs Botha's view that a favorable climate for reform exists in South Africa. In a survey of whites, coloureds and Asians, the council found that 57 percent of whites felt that blacks who lived outside the present self-governing homelands should be represented on the president's council, a body created in 1981 to replace the upper house of parliament, from which blacks are excluded.

And 48 percent of the whites thought that without such a share in the constitutional process, there was no chance of peace among the population groups.

Opposition leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert of the Progressive Federal Party has said the exclusion of South Africa's 21 million black majority is the fatal flaw in the reform plans. But right-wingers such as Connie Mulder of the Conservative Party rejected the poll findings and declared: "At grass roots level, the voters do not even want coloureds and Indians on the president's council."

Leading anti-apartheid campaigner Sheena Duncan, president of the Black Sash Movement seeking a better deal for blacks, said in a recent article that Botha's proposed changes were not reform, but aimed at entrenching white power. (R)

Pacifists in uniform worry German top brass

By Ralph Boulton

BONN — The West German army, part of NATO's front-line defense, is striving to raise the flagging morale of its 229,000 conscripts and stave off the advances of a militant peace movement.

When Conservative Defense Minister Manfred Woerner took office in October, one of his first actions was to call a crisis meeting to discuss what many conscripts see as the Bundeswehr's (armed forces) most menacing enemy — boredom. The conference, which took place this month at Wentorf Barracks near Hamburg, gave 150 soldiers and sailors a first chance to complain about hours of daydreaming in barracks-rooms and shortages of ammunition and petrol. The picture of conscript life that emerged from the two-day conference was, a senior general acknowledged, one of "hectic under-exertion."

Some military experts say the frustration that bubbled to the surface at Wentorf means that conscripts doubt the use of the Bundeswehr. And this,

they argue, can make them receptive to the arguments of their pacifist peers.

When the first raw conscripts donned the field gray of West Germany's newly-founded army 25 years ago, they faced the hostility of thousands who felt Germans should renounce the military spirit forever. Trade unions and other social groups, fearing a resurgence of Prussian militarism, launched a "Count Meint" campaign. But the new armed forces gradually won acceptance among most young Germans as, if nothing better, a necessary evil.

Herman Giesen of the German Bundeswehr Association (VDB), a sort of servicemen's trade union, believes that acceptance has been undermined in the last three years through sheer bad organization. "Conscripts leave the Bundeswehr less convinced about its use than when they joined. Word gets around and this deters the whole service," he said. "Of course they are influenced and made to feel unsure by this peace movement because they must describe their everyday life in the army to outsiders. Some find they have trouble with their friends at home," he added.

The root of the problem is a chronic imbalance in the age structure of the armed forces which has alarmed West Germany's military hierarchy. Senior company officers are often simply too old to lead their men from the front in battlefield conditions and the senior officer corps is the most aged in NATO, one expert said. West German Chief of Staff Gen. Juergen Brandt, who retires next year, told a senior officers meeting recently: "This structural problem...worries me at least as much as the conventional superiority of Warsaw Pact forces in Europe."

A chronic shortage of training officers means that conscripts are often left to their own devices or given petty tasks when they should be under instruction.

"When they are on maneuvers with weapons and learning the profession they have a sense of challenge. But sitting in barracks waiting for a training officer...can be frustrating," Giesen said. Most military experts agree that uniformed soldiers going to disarmament rallies are a tiny minority, but resistance to military service has clearly spread in recent years.

West Berlin lawyer Klaus Kiewe, who specializes in the problems of conscientious objectors and deserters, has seen his business rocketing this year. "The number of people coming to me has practically doubled in the last six months. Some, a minority, I would count as straightforward pacifists. Many are just scared by what they read in the newspapers and there are those who simply do not want to give up their job and live on a Bundeswehr allowance," he said.

The VDB estimates that there is a backlog of about 100,000 applications for conscientious objectors and the authorities are struggling to cope with them. The defense ministry acknowledges only a slight rise.

The government hopes this figure will be cut by a new law extending from 16 to 20 months the length of time conscientious objectors must spend in alternative social service. The law, passed by parliament this month, is strongly opposed by the opposition Social Democrats who consider it unconstitutional. Constitutional arguments are also being raised against suggestions that women should be allowed into the army to help solve a manpower crisis due to hit the forces in the mid-1980s.

A sudden drop in the birth-rate in the late 1960s, widely attributed to the contraceptive pill, means the Bundeswehr could shrink from its present strength of 495,000 to around 290,000 by the mid-1990s.

Feminists argue that to admit women only on a voluntary basis and not allow them to bear arms would make a mockery of emancipation. Other critics say that to enlist women as a mere "stop-gap" is equally senseless.

In the Bundeswehr itself, opinion is largely against the inclusion of women. Any idea of women being trained for combat is dismissed by all but the most radical recruits.

Another solution under consideration in military circles is recruiting volunteers from the country's 4.6 million-strong immigrant community.

Army officials have proposed that foreigners be encouraged to join the army for the standard term, perhaps with assurances that service would help their applications for citizenship. But that seems a distant prospect. (R)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Dec. 27, the 361st day of 1982. There are four days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1703 — Methuen Treaty between Britain and Portugal is signed.

1794 — French troops invade Holland.

1927 — Joseph Stalin's faction wins at All-Union Congress in Russia and Leon Trotsky is expelled from Communist Party.

1944 — Soviet forces surround Budapest in World War II. U.S. forces smash across German bulge in Belgium and relieve U.S. troops under siege at Bastogne.

1947 — Greek government dissolves Communist Party.

1949 — Queen Juliana of the Netherlands signs document granting Indonesia sovereignty after more than three centuries of Dutch rule.

1962 — India and Pakistan reopen talks on Kashmir.

1965 — Oil drilling rig collapses in North Sea off Yorkshire, England, and 13 of the 32 aboard are killed.

1967 — Thailand officials say Communist troops in Laos are threat to Thailand, and send troops to areas along Laotian border.

1969 — Libya, Sudan and United Arab Republic announce political, economic and military agreement in Tripoli.

1976 — At least 20 persons die in fight between two groups of blacks in Cape Town, South Africa.

1980 — Soviet-backed regime in Afghanistan enters second year in power, with Cuban troops reported involved in fighting rebel forces.

Thought for today:
You must be poor to know...the luxury of giving
— George Eliot, English novelist (1819-1880).

Advances in technology

Western warfare under sea

By Patrick J. Sloyan

BERGA, Sweden (N) — The swans heard the helicopters first. Their graceful gliding and feeding on the fjord was transformed into a clumsy wing-pumping escape, their webbed feet finally running across the surface as they lumbered into the air over the Baltic Sea.

Two banana-shaped helicopters plopped sonar monitoring devices strung from cables into murky water. They hovered like giant dragonflies as their rotors churned up a mist where the swans had been. It was just after dawn. The Swedish Navy was beginning another week in a hunt for an unidentified submarine believed to be spying on the top-secret Musko Naval Base 20 miles south of Stockholm.

In fact, there were at least two — and maybe four.

The drama illustrated the seeming impossibility of locating a submarine on the surface much less in the vastness of the world's

oceans. But these same northern waters are the focal point of a massive application of science and technology by the U.S. and its allies that is ripping holes in the underwater cloak that hides the Soviet submarine force. Some experts believe it will soon be stripped away. More than 15 years of research and at least \$50 billion in Pentagon spending has created a global network of listening and tracking electronics — on the ocean floor and aboard submarines, surface ships and airplanes — designed to keep a 24-hour watch on 185 Soviet submarines.

Advances in underwater sound detection, computerized analysis and satellite communications have enhanced this capability. Starting next year a new fleet of small, civilian-manned navy ships will for the first time comb the deep ocean basins of the world with what scientists call a "spectacular" new listening system.

For more than two decades, vast stretches of deep ocean have hidden American,

French, British and Soviet missile submarines, making them almost invulnerable to attack as they move slowly and silently within striking distances of targets thousands of miles away. It is this invulnerability that plays a major role in preventing nuclear war: even if an aggressor destroyed all land-based nuclear weapons of another nation, it still would face destruction from hidden submarine missiles.

The importance of strategic submarines has increased as more accurate warheads threaten, at least on paper, fields of intercontinental ballistic missiles deployed on land where both sides have plotted their locations within a few feet. Today, however, Soviet missiles on submarines theoretically are becoming vulnerable, too.

American and NATO defense planners and U.S. and Western antisubmarine warfare experts say unfavorable geography for the Soviets has been turned into a Western advantage with Space Age electronics.

Advanced electronic detection systems are being deployed on most of the 90 U.S. Navy attack submarines and even more surface ships and helicopters as part of a project that rivals, in terms of cost, impact and scope, the more celebrated — and obvious — Pentagon programs to build squadrons of planes or fleets of aircraft carriers.

Top-secret classifications have hidden most of the program from American taxpayers. The oceans have hidden the hardware. But Soviet defense planners seem up to date. For example, when a nuclear-powered American submarine from the Polaris-Poseidon missile-firing fleet leaves Holy Loch, Scotland, and enters into the Firth of Clyde, a Soviet attack submarine is waiting to follow. Quickly joining the game is an American attack submarine. With its speed and sound, it blocks, decoys and confuses the Soviet pursuer while Poseidon disappears from Soviet detection devices.

Underwater sound is the most fascinating — and most classified — aspect of the American antisubmarine warfare effort. American submarines are dramatically quieter. Modern British submarines are the quietest. But most Soviet submarines are so noisy.

A Soviet submarine's signature — the collection of sounds it makes — can be detected crossing within range of one of the fixed underwater hydrophones, and course and speed can be plotted if it crosses a second undersea listening post. Data collected from these arrays are relayed by satellite to the navy computer.

Since World War II, sonar has been used to calculate the direction and speed of underwater boats. Much like radar, sonar emits a narrowly focused sound wave that strikes a submarine's hull and then bounces back to the sonar sender's hydrophone. To locate direction, the sonar signal is emitted at various points of the compass. The speed at which the echo returns indicates distance — the faster reflection indicates movement toward the sonar sender, slower indicates the submarine is moving away.

A major drawback of this active detection system has been its slowness in pinging a target, but it has been overcome. Surtass represents the most ambitious extension of sonar searching.

More precise location of Soviet submarines around the world is the work of the Orion aircraft that can fly to the areas indicated by Surtass and the underwater network. In addition to using magnetometers to locate submarines by sensing magnetic-field disturbances, the PCs can drop self-contained sonar systems that relay findings to the aircraft operators. The same techniques are used by smaller planes and helicopters deployed from NATO aircraft carriers.

Despite these technologies, arguments have raged — primarily in scientific journals — over the emerging ability by the United States to make the oceans transparent and submarines vulnerable. Senior U.S. Navy officers involved in antisubmarine warfare argue the bulk of their forces are deployed to deal with Soviet submarines' threats to American fleets, not keeping track of Soviet submarines.

Nevertheless, "ATO officials estimate less than 10 — and probably only eight — Soviet strategic submarines are on patrol at any one time. And, most of them are in the Barents and Okhotsk Seas. By contrast, at least 18 of the 37 U.S. Polaris-Poseidon fleet are ranging the oceans 24 hours a day.

One major counter to Western antisubmarine warfare efforts has been Soviet innovation in submarines. "I think they lead the world in applying new designs and approaches," said John Moore, editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships*, the authoritative encyclopedia of naval defense.

Although neutral Sweden does not share in the U.S. antisubmarine program, it can afford the best submarine detection systems on the market. Even so, one and perhaps two Soviet submarines have evaded their hunt in what is a puzzle compared with the 129 million square miles of oceans confronting American subhunters.



NOT A BOMB: The commander of a Finnish Coast Guard is holding a Soviet submarine marker buoy. At least ten buoys, each measuring 40 cms in length and resembling a bomb, were detected in the Finnish coast on the Baltic Sea this summer indicating increased Soviet submarine activity in the area.

Smugglers' zone thrives near Hong Kong's border

By Jonathan Mirsky

LONDON, (LOS) — Two Communist Chinese officials have been found guilty of organizing a multimillion-dollar smuggling racket in the Shen Zhen Special Economic Zone, just over the border from Hong Kong. The zone is an area where foreign and Chinese business enterprises are allowed to take part in "joint ventures."

The two convicted officials misused their positions in the China Electronics Import and Export Corporation to import illegally 550,000 television sets within a year, together with 340,000 radio-cassette recorders, 1,350,000 tapes, and 20,000 calculators. The value of the goods was over \$11 million.

They also misappropriated half-a-million dollars in customs duties and were involved in illegal foreign currency deals amounting to \$16 million. Party investigators discovered that 730 cheap television sets went to certain government organizations, "probably as disguised bribes to facilitate their economic crimes." The conspirators were exposed when customers complained to the authorities that it was impossible to obtain spare parts for the illegal sets.

The Shen Zhen economic zone is a hive of smuggling, bribery, and embezzlement. It is a center, too, for Hong Kong's notorious Triads, secret societies with roots reaching centuries back in China's history. The Triads now oversee smuggling and drug-pushing to such a degree in Canton province, and Shen Zhen in particular, that police banned them from the zone recently.

Smuggling has become big business in China as a whole. Earlier this year the

authorities arrested a Canton official whose electronic smuggling network extended to Shandong in the northeast, where his wife managed the operation.

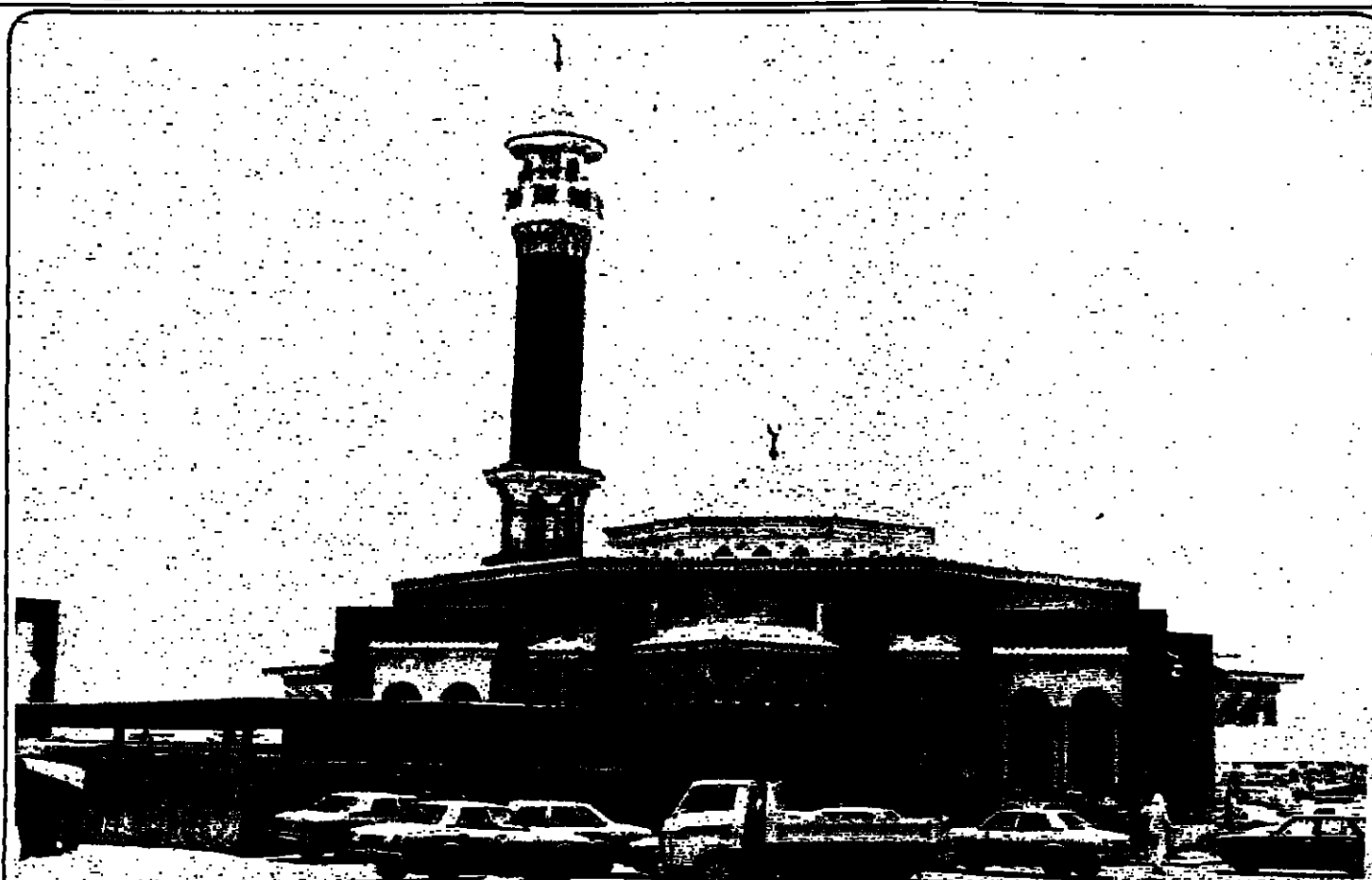
According to the anti-smuggling division of the State Council, more than 900 boats and ships involved in "small-scale" smuggling were apprehended in the first nine months of this year, carrying \$28 million worth of smuggled goods. In the last two years Chinese customs solved 51,000 smuggling cases amounting to \$75 million and stopped 1,251 "major" smuggling ships with \$102 million worth of illegal merchandise aboard.

The traffic is two-way. Electronic equipment and nylon cloth are the chief items coming in. Some illegal drugs enter as well but China has now become a transshipment point for Thai heroin, which is then smuggled out to Hong Kong.

Medicinal herbs and antiques also leave illegally. Last year 8,000 antiques were seized, many of museum quality, most of them carried out by tourists and foreign businessmen.

For 150 years China's leaders have been preoccupied by what they see as the pollution of their country by the West. Deng Xiaoping and his comrades ceaselessly rail against the "capitalist and bourgeois" ideas which accompany the technology required if China is to reach its goal of quadrupled production within 18 years.

What agitates the Dengists, whose own elite live in great but discreet comfort, is the connection between the computers, vital for national modernization, and smuggling, pornography, rock music — and dark glasses with foreign labels.



CIRCULAR MOSQUE: This beautiful circular mosque stands in solitude very close to the Jeddah International Market on Madinah Road.

In celebration of the Hijra

By Saad Zahid

"How is it possible for Muhammad to defend himself without a sword after his enemies decided to kill him the night of the Hijra?" said Thomas Carlyle, the noted English writer in defense of the Prophet.

The Prophet Muhammad took the sword in defense of his religion, himself and his friends. He insisted on preaching to the Quraysh with wisdom but when he discovered that they not only rejected the divine message but also did everything in their power to get rid of him, he had no other choice but to defend himself.

The Quraysh fought the Prophet bitterly by looting, stealing and killing. Even then he fought back only after the revelation of the verse from Allah through Gabriel: "It is permitted for those who are being fought and unjustly treated to fight and Allah is capable of rendering them victorious."

This is how the defense of Islam started after the Hijra with the sword. Even then the Prophet fought only those who attacked him. The Quraysh did not cease to plot against the Prophet after his flight to Madinah and even attacked his disciples.

Thinking of a way to stop the Quraysh from pursuing him, the Holy Prophet decided to oppose them when they were returning from Syria in a caravan. This was to teach them a lesson and to impress upon them that Islam had become a force to

reckon with and worthy of their respect and fear and thus create a climate of peace and security.

Although the Quraysh outnumbered the Muslims in arms and men, they were completely routed. The idolaters numbered 1,000 and has hundreds of camels and more than 100 horses but the Muslims were only 300 with 40 camels and 4 horses. One of the Quraysh leaders, Abu Sufian, who was leading the caravan, managed to escape by taking the sea route and he advised his followers to return to Makkah. Abu Jahl, a stalwart of the idolaters, was taken aback when news of the defeat reached him in Makkah. He is reported to have said: "We shall not feel shy of waging a battle with Muhammad. Do you want people to say that we are afraid of fighting him? We shall go to Badr to demonstrate to all the Arabs that we are the masters of this country."

Badr was the historic occasion when Muslims won their first victory against idolaters. Did not Allah promise them victory? Angel Gabriel gave Prophet Muhammad the glad tidings. "Rest assured Oh Prophet! Allah will surely do what He promised!" This was a direct answer to the Prophet's pressing entreaty to Allah before the hosts met on the battlefield. "If this day thou dost let the army of the soldiers of the faith be wiped out, then no one will be left on the earth to adore Thee!"

After the victory, the Prophet insisted on

making peace so he decided to negotiate the peace treaty of Hudaibia. Wanting to perform *Umrah* at the Holy Mosque in Makkah, the Prophet sent word to the Makkans that he was coming as a man of peace and had no intention of shedding any more blood. The Prophet went to Makkah with a flock of sheep that he would sacrifice for the poor. Nevertheless, the Quraysh did not respond to his appeal for peace and their warriors left Makkah to engage the Muslims. But the Prophet took another route to avoid them and to prove his peaceful intentions.

In spite of all his efforts, when the Prophet reached Hudaibia he found that the Quraysh had sent some warriors to hatch a plot against him. This band tried to attack the Muslims at night but were captured and imprisoned. To assure them of his good intentions, the Prophet released the captives.

The Quraysh insisted on a peace treaty for 10 years and said they would not allow the Prophet to perform the *Umrah* that year, but in the following year. Two years later, Quraysh broke their promise and helped their allies from Bani Bakr to defeat the Prophet's allies, the Bani Khuza'ah some of whom had become Muslims. When they called for help the Prophet Muhammad went to their aid and the final battle for Islam was fought near Makkah, and the idolaters were defeated forever.

Gems lend glitter to Pakistan economy

By Muhammad Ziauddin

ISLAMABAD (Depthnews) — If there's glitter in the average Pakistani's eyes these days, the reason could be gems.

During the past few years Pakistan has emerged as a major world supplier of precious stones, and for all that we know, the nation may have barely scratched the surface of its rich treasure trove of gems. Last year's export of precious stones fetched 80 million rupees (\$6.5 million). The gems included emerald, ruby, spinel, paragasite, aquamarine, topaz, kunsite, garnet and quartz.

According to official estimates last year's haul totaled 16,190 carats of emeralds from the Swat emerald mines and the Chabagh-Alipuri project; 3,973.4 carats of rough ruby from the Hunza ruby project; 9,447.4 carats of rough topaz from the Katlang project; and 18,405 carats of aquamarine and 66,250 carats of tourmaline from the Dasso (Skardu) project.

Organized government exploitation of the country's rich supply of precious stones only started in 1979, with the establishment of the Gem Corporation of Pakistan Ltd. But within three years, the corporation has brought Pakistan into the forefront of the world's leading supplier of precious stones.

Worldwide recognition has placed Pakistan on the map as a major gems supplier. Last September, the Gem Corporation's four-day international auction sales in Karachi drew famous gem merchants from the U.S., Western Europe, the Middle East, India and the Far East.

At the end of the four-day affair, Pakistan counted 40 million rupees (\$3.2 million) in sales. Even more significant, the corporation officials have decided to hold annual auction sale henceforth in view of the worldwide response.

Last year, Pakistan also held an international auction, but the proceeds amounted to only 18.7 million rupees (\$1.5 million). Sales outlets have since been established at Hunza, Gilgit, Swat, Rawalpindi and Peshawar.

Most of the gemstones are found in the northern regions of the country close to the Himalayan peaks. Emerald was first discovered in Swat in 1958. Other emerald deposits are found along an area extending about 200 kilometers across the Mehmud Agency, Bajaur Agency, Alai Kohistan and Astor, all on the border with Afghanistan.

The Swat emerald is a standout among Pakistan precious stones for its brilliance, medium to deep green color and its unique transparency. It compares favorably with the finest emeralds from Muzo, Colombia, according to experts.

The Swat emeralds are generally small in size. The cut stones normally average less than a carat, but the recently discovered deposits in the Mehmud and Bajaur Agencies are an exception. The emeralds from these two areas are yellowish green, slightly less luminous than the Swat emeralds.

Ruby is found in the limestone-rich region of Hunza close to the scenic Rakaposhi peak in Karakoram. The Hunza rubies range in

color from pale red to pigeon blood red with shades of red and pink. Some of the red varieties are almost identical to the finest Burmese rubies.

The broad range of color of the Hunza rubies makes them a favorite of gem lovers. They are found in various sizes, but are flawed by cracks and white patches of calcite. The red-colored gems with a white or gray-colored mother rock form some of the most beautiful collectors' specimen.

Aquamarine is found in the Gilgit area. This precious stone was first extracted near Dasso village in Baltistan near the K-2, the second highest peak in the world. The aquamarine crystals are large, light blue, well-developed and have "perfect" edges.

The crystals are also found in the Haramosh range in the Skardu district. They usually measure about one to three inches long and about one-half to a quarter inch in diameter.

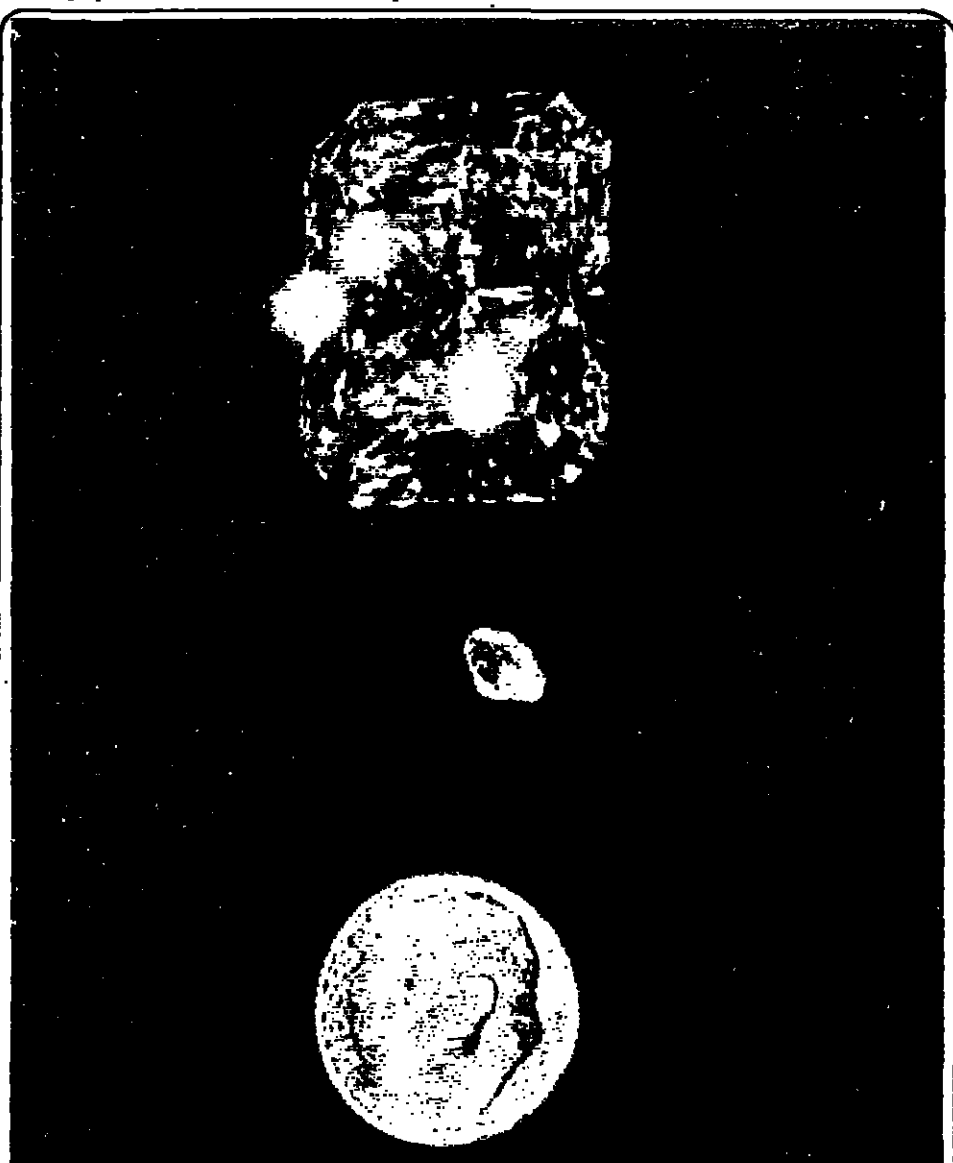
An exceptionally large crystal, about 10 inches long and five inches in diameter, was reportedly discovered in 1915. It weighed about 13 pounds, but authorities have yet to

authenticate the discovery.

Natural pink-colored topaz in grey to dark gray-colored crystallized limestone is found near Katlang in the Vardan district, while large-sized crystals with generally perfect shape are found in quartz-calcite veins with small quantities of light green tale. Only recently, good quality golden and brown topaz was discovered in Pegmaritis in Dasso, while Shengus is noted for its colorless topaz.

In Dir, Chitral and Gilgit, large, clear, transparent and smoky quartz are found in abundance. Tourquoise was recently discovered in the Chagi district, while the green tourmaline is a new discovery in Kohistan and the Gilgit areas.

The history of gems in Pakistan dates back to the world's oldest civilization known as the Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Gandhara and Taxila. The archaeological remains of these civilizations dating back to 5,000 to 200 B.C., indicate that even in those ancient times the precious stones were held in great esteem in these areas.



FANCY DIAMOND: Shown next to a dime and one carat diamond, this 79.12 carat diamond appraised at \$4.25 million was offered for sale in Dallas recently.

GALLSTONES SYMPTOMS



STOP KILLING YOURSELF

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: Some time ago, you had a column on gallstones symptoms. I lost the copy. Would you mind writing about the difference in symptoms between hiatus hernia and gallstones? Are they hard to tell apart? Mrs. S.

Dear Mrs. S.: Are you trying to make your own differential diagnosis? If so, you're letting yourself in for unnecessary discomfort. Usually, the diagnosis can be easily made by X-ray examination. But if you go along without knowing the actual cause of your symptoms, what you think is gallbladder trouble may be due to hiatus hernia — or to no actual organic disease at all.

First, remember that gallstones may be silent. I have known patients with gallbladders filled with stones who had no indigestion at all. Likewise, many patients with hiatus hernia do not even realize they have it until routine X-rays have been taken. What about distinctive symptoms? There aren't any. One patient with gallstones may have continual pain in the abdomen, and complain of heartburn, gas, nausea. If a stone "gets caught" in a bile duct, the patient suffers the typical, painful colic attack. How do these symptoms differ from those in the hiatus hernia patient? Sometimes not at all. In fact, some times the hiatus attack is so severe that the patient may appear to be having a coronary heart attack. Is this all unclear? I hope so. It may

propel you to a radiologist so that you will not need to keep guessing about the diagnosis. Don't be surprised if you have gallstones and a hiatal hernia. Mrs. S. Often, they are associated.

MEDICALETTES

(Replies to and from readers):

For Mrs. L.: A letter from podiatrist R.M.G. of San Diego: Dear Dr. Steincrohn: I read with interest a recent column by you relating to a Mrs. C. She described a hurting and burning pain in her forefoot with no significant physical findings. Physical examination revealed normal reflexes and circulation in this otherwise healthy 59-year-old woman. Your reply indicated a tarsal tunnel syndrome and advised the patient to consult an orthopedic surgeon. Certainly a tarsal tunnel syndrome can cause some symptoms similar in nature to those described by the patient. Her description of the symptoms, however, are practically "textbook" for a Morton's intermetatarsal neuroma. There is little question that a competent orthopedist can and does take care of these problems. However, I feel certain that the podiatrists of this country are much more familiar with this and other foot problems.

(Tomorrow: Herpes simplex)

By Peter J.

Steincrohn

M.D., F.A.C.P.

CIA study shows

Soviet economy going downhill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP) — The Soviet Union's gross national product quadrupled over the past three decades, but its economy is now in a strong slide that began in the late 1960s, according to a CIA study released Saturday.

The study, released by the joint economic committee, said the Soviet people's standard of living "has improved rapidly during the 30 years." Per capita consumption nearly tripled from 1950 to 1980, rising at an average annual rate of 3.5 percent.

However, the U.S. intelligence agency noted that "gains were much smaller in the 1970s than in the 1960s and 1950s, reflecting a slowdown in overall economic growth."

"While substantial, the growth rates for per capita consumption are well within the bounds of those found in Western countries in the postwar period, and Soviet living stan-

S. Africa may discover oil

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 26 (R) — South Africa has a good chance of finding oil in viable quantities after recent successes in its offshore drilling program, the general manager of the state-financed exploration company said Saturday.

Dr. Piet Van Zyl of the Southern Oil Exploration Corporation (SOEKOR) told South African radio the existence of good source rock around the coast.

dards remain well below those in the United States, Japan and most of Europe, both East and West," the study said.

The study also found that — by contrast with usual patterns of development — the Soviet economy has registered a surprising decline in the relative importance of its service sector.

In releasing the 401-page report, Chairman Henry S. Reuss of the joint economic committee accentuated the CIA study's more positive findings about the overall health of the Soviet economy.

The Wisconsin Democrat said in a statement, "this important study helps put into perspective for Americans the fact that the U.S.S.R., far from being on the verge of collapse, has experienced major growth."

"Certainly, Russia has major economic problems, some of which are related to excessive military expenditures," Reuss said. "Economic growth has slowed from annual rates above 5 percent from 1950 to 1970 to an annual rate of 2.7 percent in the 1976-1980 period."

He noted that housing gains have been slow because the centrally planned Soviet economy has been focused on industrial and military expansion.

In view of these economic conditions, the CIA study "illustrates that a real arms control agreement would be as much in the Soviet national interest as it would be in ours," Reuss said.

Reuss described the data presented in the

study — culminating a years-long research effort by the CIA's directorate of intelligence — as "the first publicly available estimates of Soviet national economic accounts that are comparable to Western practices."

The CIA report said Soviet gross national product — estimated in 1970 — grew from 133.6 billion rubles in 1950 to 525.4 billion rubles in 1980, an average growth rate of 4.7 percent a year.

The annual GNP growth rate averaged 5.5 percent during 1951-55, 5.9 percent for 1956-60, 5.0 percent for 1961-65, 5.2 percent for 1966-70, 3.7 percent for 1971-75 and 2.7 percent for 1976-80.

"The data suggest that the Soviet economy has been in a strong growth slide since the late 1960s, and that the average growth rate in the late 1970s was barely half the rate of 10 years earlier," the study said.

It said growth of Soviet industry, "although generally exceeding that of GNP, has slowed from the 8 to 12 percent per year range in the 1950s to the 3 to 4 percent per year range in the late 1970s."

The report said the share of GNP created in industry has increased steadily from 20 percent in 1950 to 37 percent in 1980, while agriculture's share of Soviet GNP has dropped from 31 percent in 1950 to 14 percent in 1980.

"Other notable trends are the growing importance of transportation and — surprisingly — the declining relative importance of the service sector," it said.

Abu Dhabi oil consumption up by 16.5%

ABU DHABI, Dec. 26 (WAM) — Consumption of refined oil in the country last year rose by 16.5 percent as compared with 1980, Muhammad Al Qassimi director of the economic department at the ministry of petroleum and mineral resources said.

This included a rise of more than 14 percent in super gasoline (90 octane), more than 20 percent in special gasoline (97 octane) as well as rises by more than 16.2 percent in kerosene and 16 percent in diesel oil respectively. Al Qassimi told the Dubai-based English daily *Khaleej Times*.

The official said even after the Ruweis refinery becomes fully operational, the price of refined oil in the country would not be reduced. Bahrain and Oman, Qassimi said, were selling their crudes at the real costs although both these states are not, however, subsidizing petroleum production.

Drought stalks Indonesia

JAKARTA, Dec. 26 (AFP) — The world recession and an exceptionally long drought have hit agriculture this year in Indonesia, 60 percent of whose 150 million people work in the agricultural sector.

Farm exports dropped both in value and quantity while the drought, the worst in ten years, delayed the planting season and even harvesting in some areas, Agricultural Minister Hadisaputro said Saturday.

Some 510,030 hectares of paddy fields, including 178,841 hectares which were totally unproductive, could not be irrigated, he added in an interview with the semi-official Antara News Agency.

Paddy fields under cultivation went down by 2.31 percent this year over 1981, though this has no adverse effect on rice production, which went up 6.5 percent, thanks to better cultivation methods and improved quality of seeds.

In 1982, rice output would reach 23.8 million tons, up from the 1981 total of 22.8 million tons, Hadisaputro said. "We have apparently solved the (rice) problem and we

have, in principle reached self-sufficiency." But a recent U.S. Embassy report said Indonesia's rice production would not exceed 22.3 million tons and forecast that the 1982 drought would adversely affect output in 1983. The report also said Indonesia would be forced to import two million tons of rice next year.

Despite the lower farm output, the government is continuing its rehabilitation and expansion program for both private and state plantations, the minister said.

Exports of farm products also dropped markedly this year and log exports, which reached 5.8 million tons between January and September 1981, plummeted to 3.2 million tons during the same period this year.

Rubber exports, which totaled 694,000 tons during the January-September 1981 period, dropped to 618,000 tons during the same period in 1982.

Coffee exports also went down from 177,200 tons for January-September 1981 to 174,600 tons for the comparable period in 1982.

Financial discord may ground Concorde

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AP) — Six years after its turbulent takeoff, Concorde, the British-French supersonic jetliner, is still dodging financial storm clouds.

Though passengers appear to love it, the state subsidies that keep it aloft are as uncertain as the winds over the Atlantic.

In London, the Conservative government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said that after next April, it will no longer pick up 14 million to 16 million pounds (\$22.5 to \$25.5 million) a year in "support costs."

In Paris President Francois Mitterrand's Socialist government continues to absorb the 160 million francs (\$23-million) yearly operating loss.

But in the past seven months, services from Paris to Rio de Janeiro, Caracas, Mexico City and Washington have been axed, and there are persistent rumors denied by the transportation ministry that the remaining New York flights will be grounded.

Despite the uncertainties, the sleek, delta-winged plane with the swivel nose down for landing, up for cruising soars over the Atlantic each day, cruising at 1,350 miles per hour (2,170 kph), landing a mere three hours 45 minutes after takeoff, three

hours faster than other jets. At least for the immediate future, it appears likely to continue doing so.

"We support Concorde," said a spokesman for the French transportation ministry. "We are committed to it."

Sir John King, chairman of state-owned British Airways, declared: "Concorde services will go on. We are very happy about future prospects."

Indeed, the British have some reason to be. Since the government decided to write off the 120 million pounds purchase price (\$193 million), BA's seven Concorde have soared from losses of 10 million pounds (\$16.2 million) between 1976 and 1981 to profits of 2 million (\$3.2 million) in 1981-82 and 7 million (\$11.3 million) in 1982-83.

More than half a million passengers have been carried. The airline's twice-daily flights from London to New York and three times a week to Washington fly 70 percent full.

By June 1983, British Airways expects to begin handing over to the treasury 80 percent of Concorde operating profits. The bright horizon was clouded last month by Trade Minister Ian Sprouat's decision to stop footing the bill for support costs.

But BA has countered with a plan for one year's postponement in the transfer of both the support costs and the profits. In the interim, it hopes to cut costs to below 4 million pounds (\$6.5 million) and negotiate a cut-price deal for spare parts.

"We want to keep flying Concorde because one it's profitable and two, it's an image-builder," says BA spokesman Ted Duggan.

The picture is far less rosy for Air France. The airline's seven planes have lost 676 million francs (\$98 million). Despite shedding unprofitable routes, it expects to lose another 180 million francs (\$26 million) in the current year, of which the government will absorb 90 percent.

Conceived in 1962, its builders, British Aerospace and France's Aerospatiale, expected it to revolutionize long-distance jet travel. The two governments budgeted 170 million pounds (\$275 million), for developing it, planned to start flying passengers by 1969 and expected to sell 400 planes.

But soon, development costs soared eventually reaching 2 billion pounds (\$3.24 billion) the airline industry sagged and the plane ran into production difficulties.



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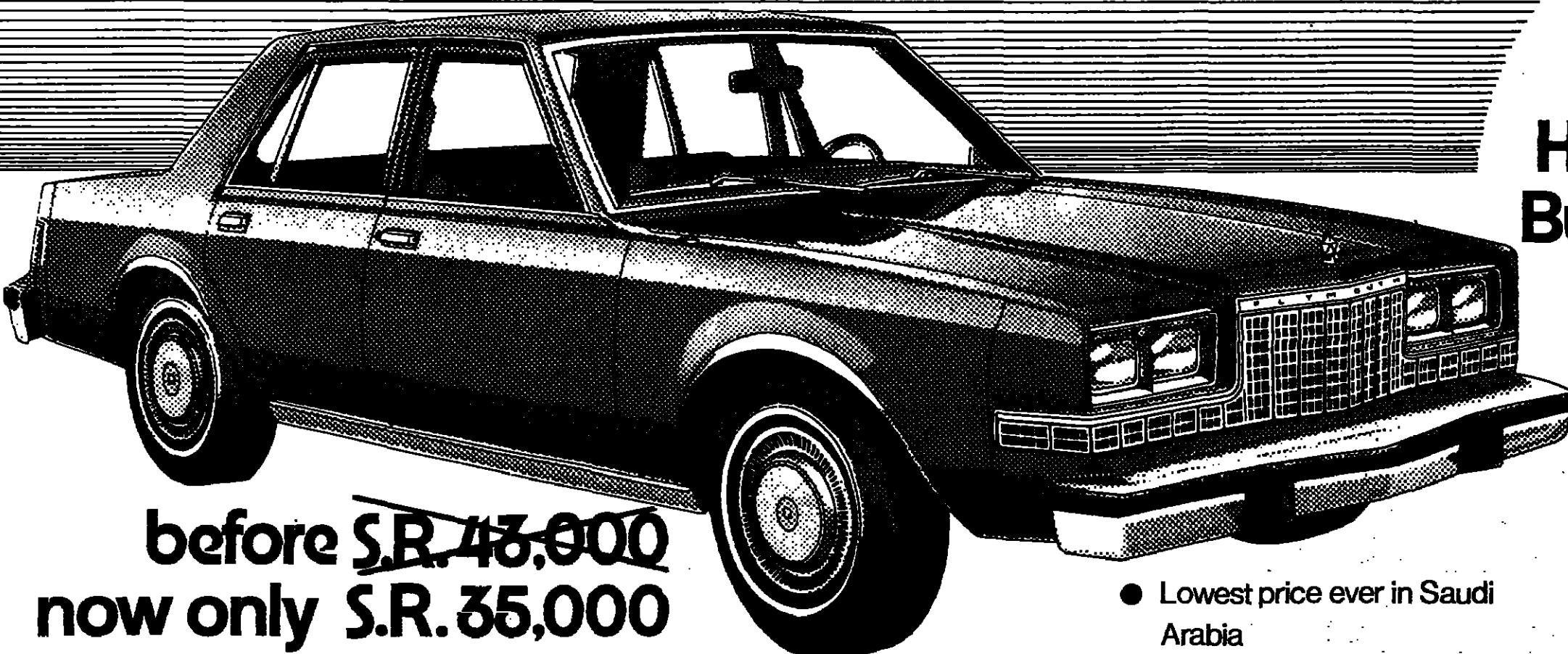
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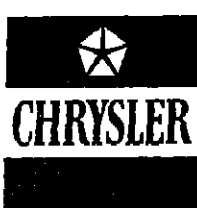
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CBI survey shows

U.K. economy fails to take off

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Estimates on gross domestic product issued this past week reveal that the British economy has remained stagnant during the first nine months of the year, and real growth since the recession hit bottom last year has been only about 1 percent.

The Confederation of British Industry (CBI), the main employers' group, has just published a survey showing manufacturing industry as still suffering from a deep recession. "All this means that the government can entertain no hopes for an improvement on the jobs front, especially since most of Britain's major trading partners are also still

struggling with depressed economies.

There has been some good news, however, on the inflation front, as the implied index of total home costs for the third quarter was only 6 percent higher than the quarter a year earlier. The employment department had earlier reported that British prices in general rose at an annual rate of 6.3 percent in November, against 6.8 percent in October. The November figure was the lowest monthly reading for more than 10 years.

There was also good news on the balance of payments, which enjoyed a big surplus of 700 million pounds in November, the best monthly figure since April last year.

The surplus was 489 million pounds the previous month (revised from the 459 million), and only 63 million for November 1981.

For the first 11 months of the year, the surplus in the balance of payments is 3.8 billion pounds (more than \$6 billion), but due to the relatively poor results of the first half of this year, the balance so far is well below the

corresponding period of last year (5.47 billion pounds).

The November improvement was due to a jump of 4.9 percent in exports, which beat the monthly record with 4.93 billion pounds. Exports were virtually stationary at 4.46 billion pounds. Oil has continued to play an important role, accounting for a record 506 million pounds of the surplus on balance of payments (against 496 million in October and only 219 million in November last year).

The OECD has just issued its forecast for the U.K. economy, saying it will continue to be held back by a substantial loss of manufacturing competitiveness that has emerged during the past three years. Growth in output will be only 1 percent next year in real terms, against the 0.5 percent anticipated for the current year, the OECD says. And the forecast adds that "in the first half of 1984, GDP and manufacturing production are still likely to be some 2 percent and 13 percent respectively below their 1979 peaks."

France turns to solar power

TOULOUSE, France, Dec. 26 (AFP) — France will take a tiny but significant step next month in its bid to seek an alternative to oil when it begins to operate its first solar energy plant.

The 2.5 megawatt solar plant, named "Themis," is capable of supplying the electricity needs of a small town like nearby Font-Romeu and its 3,000 inhabitants.

Its power will be fed into the national grid in the first half of January, the state-run power company EDF announced here.

France's first solar complex is composed of 201 giant mirrors with a total surface area of 17,500 square meters which will trap the sun's rays.

It covers an area of five hectares at an altitude of 1,700 meters at Thargassone, in the French pyrenees.

The Themis was planned in 1975, and has cost 230 million francs (about \$34 million) to complete. EDF paid 60 percent of the cost, the state 24 percent and the local authorities 16 percent.

The work on this site, which started in

October, 1978, was scheduled to be finished at the end of 1981.

But there were many delays in bringing the Themis into production. Marcel Sagot, head of building programs in the Alpes-Marseille region, said: "Everybody knew from the beginning that this was not a power plant like the others, destined to produce electricity, but a national solar energy experimental center. In other words, a laboratory."

EDF officials admit that the final site of the Themis was "the result of many compromises and without doubt there were some errors in calculating the amount of 'usable' sun, as well as mistakes over the region's climate. So there was some initial damage."

In January, 1981, Gale force winds badly damaged some of the giant mirrors, and four more were smashed in November and 10 in December. Cracks appeared in all the others.

These incidents resulted in eight months of extra work, and extra cost in replacements and redesigning the mirror bases. "This damage, caused by weather conditions, had not been foreseen," Sagot admitted.

Gulf Air set to 'retaliate' against PIA

ABU DHABI, Dec. 26 (WAM) — Gulf government's intervention is to be sought by Gulf Air over the Pakistan civil aviation authorities reported refusal to grant it landing rights for its proposed Dubai-Rawalpindi service, the Dubai-based English daily, *Gulf News*, reported Sunday.

The newspaper said the rejection of the airline's application by the Pakistani civil aviation authorities prompted Gulf Air to "retaliate" with a move to get IATA-approved travel agents in Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the UAE (owners of the Gulf Air) to sell only Gulf Air tickets and not those of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), the national carrier of Pakistan.

Consultations are under way with the civil aviation authorities in the four Gulf states to evolving a formula for negotiations with the Pakistan government.

The newspaper said a Gulf Air delegation is likely to visit Doha, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Muscat for further discussions early next month.

Meanwhile, the travel agents have not approved the airline's request to issue only Gulf Air tickets for Pakistan and not those of PIA, which operates services between Dubai and Rawalpindi besides other destinations in Pakistan and UAE cities.

On the other hand, Gulf Air services out of the UAE and other Gulf countries, however, are restricted to Karachi only.

Debt crisis can be resolved — BIS

ZURICH, Dec. 26 (R) — Recent bridging finance operations for Mexico and Brazil have shown that the debt crisis in the world financial system can be solved, Swiss National Bank and Bank for International Settlements President Fritz Leutwiler was quoted as saying by three Swiss newspapers.

But the problem of many countries' over-indebtedness is longer term, and cannot be solved quickly through rescue operations by central banks or the International Monetary Fund, he added in an interview published in the newspapers.

Leutwiler said in the interview "If you ask whether the debt crisis can be solved, and if you stress the word crisis, then I think I can answer yes."

Riyal rates remain stable

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Dec. 26 — With the European markets closed Sunday, the local markets had another very quiet trading day. Riyal deposit rates remained stable with hardly any significant movements being reported all day. Most institutions both in the Kingdom and in Bahrain once again left for home early.

In the money markets, transactions concentrated on the shorter end of the deposit base with the week-fixed hardly unchanged at around 7-7 1/2 percent but dealings occurring around the 6 1/2 - 7 1/4 percent levels. Volumes were small and the most adventurous quoted the one-month JIBOR at around 7 1/4 - 7 1/2 percent let alone the

medium to longer-dated funds.

Other tenors were mostly given for information purposes and the year-fixed was quoted at 9 - 9 1/4 percent levels. Dealers continued to report influxes of riyal liquidity into the system and this has made lending rates to clients extremely competitive during the past two months. In a time of showing economic growth this is good news for local firms.

On the exchanges, spot riyal-dollar rates were hardly traded and prices remained fixed at around 3.4395-02 levels all day Sunday. Again, year-end book squaring for some local banks ensured that not much significant activity took place. The markets are expected to open quiet Monday.

Italians scoff at tax amnesty

ROME, Dec. 26 (LOS) — The Italian government has decided to extend the deadline of its tax amnesty, a controversial and so far ineffective measure to enable taxpayers to square their accounts at a very modest price with the ministry of finance without risk of prosecution.

The extension from Dec. 15 until next March was decided on because so few of Europe's most notorious tax dodgers have taken advantage of the official clemency.

The amnesty law has three objectives: to let people come clean with the fiscal authorities before a new law, coming into effect next year, which will empower magistrates to arrest and throw in jail suspected tax evaders; to clear the backlog of thousands of outstanding tax cases pending before the fiscal tribunals; and finally, and most importantly, to try to bring in some very badly needed cash for the state's coffers.

Nothing but criticism has been heard against the amnesty law from accountants, tradesmen, businessmen and industrialists. They all regard it as "penalizing those who in the past have paid most tax while favoring those who have never paid any."

Just what a botched-up measure it is can be seen from a simple example. If firm A has paid \$500,000 instead of \$1 million in the relevant tax year, it now has to pay, in order to be straight with the authorities, \$125,000; firm B, on the other hand, having not paid a penny in that year, now needs to pay only the minimum \$400 to secure for itself legal immunity from prosecution for fraud.

Unfortunately for the revenue, their

declared target of raising about \$4 billion by this once-only revenue tax seems to be proving an illusion. Those who have always paid a considerable amount of tax have not been inclined to come across with more when it is obvious that the dodgers can escape by handing over derisory amounts.

It is estimated that the state annually loses \$20 billion through the wholesale dishonesty of most Italian taxpayers. Italian parliamentarians are the first to set a bad example by declaring suspiciously low incomes.

Unless one is eating out on an expense account, most people prefer to pay less for their meals and get no receipt rather than be charged more for the privilege of giving the state more money.

And now cheap-fare bus firm collapses

LONDON, Dec. 26 (R) — About 1,000 international travelers, mostly young with little money, were stranded Sunday by the collapse of a British cheap-fares bus firm, a company spokesman said.

Most of them were believed to have traveled from Britain to spend holidays elsewhere in Europe but some young cross-channel travelers were stranded in Britain.

Philip Cranleigh-Swath, a director of Magic Bus, said the company was insolvent and ceased trading on New Year eve. The firm, London Telephone gave a recorded message: "We very much regret to announce that Magic Bus has ceased to trade."

Foreign Exchange Rates

| Quoted at 5:00 p.m. Saturday | Cash | Transfer |
|------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Belgian Franc | 9.10 | 9.135 |
| British Pound | 14.25 | 14.25 |
| Canadian Dollar | 74.00 | 74.00 |
| Deutsche Mark (100) | 289.00 | 289.00 |
| Dutch Guilder (100) | 144.25 | 144.60 |
| European Yen (100) | 130.50 | 130.85 |
| French Franc (100) | 33.25 | 33.28 |
| Italian Lira (1,000) | 92.25 | 92.70 |
| Japanese Yen (100) | 30.75 | 31.00 |
| Swiss Franc (100) | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| U.S. Dollar | 25.30 | 25.10 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 9.76 | 9.73 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 11.92 | 11.89 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 88.90 | 88.75 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 56.00 | 54.56 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 28.10 | 26.50 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 38.30 | 38.30 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 5.58 | 5.55 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 99.50 | 99.56 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 161.70 | 161.70 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 28.00 | 27.20 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 172.60 | 172.90 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 60.25 | 60.45 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 3.45 | 3.44 |
| Yemeni Rial (100) | 75.30 | 75.10 |

The above cash and transfer rates are supplied by Al-Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange & Commerce, Gabel St., Tel. 6476196, Jeddah.

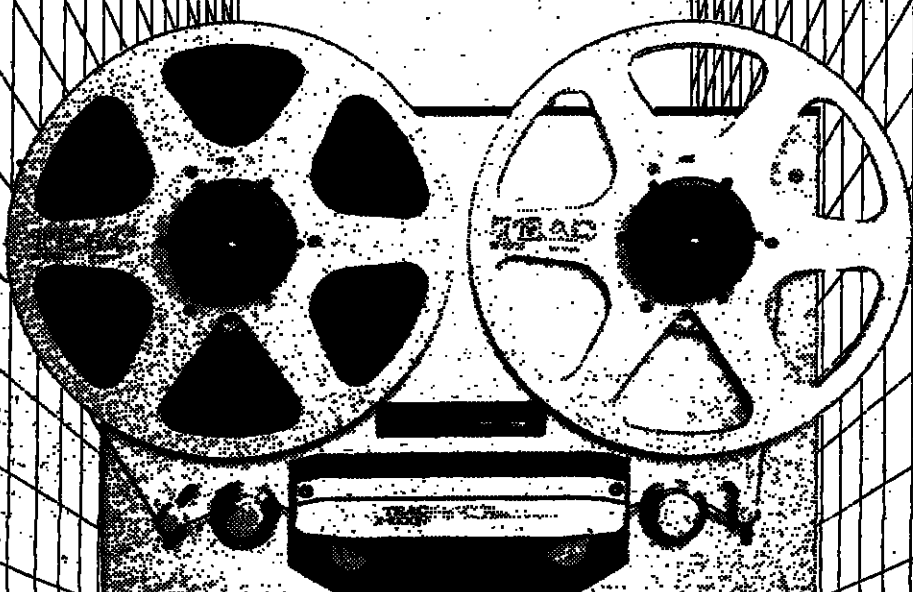
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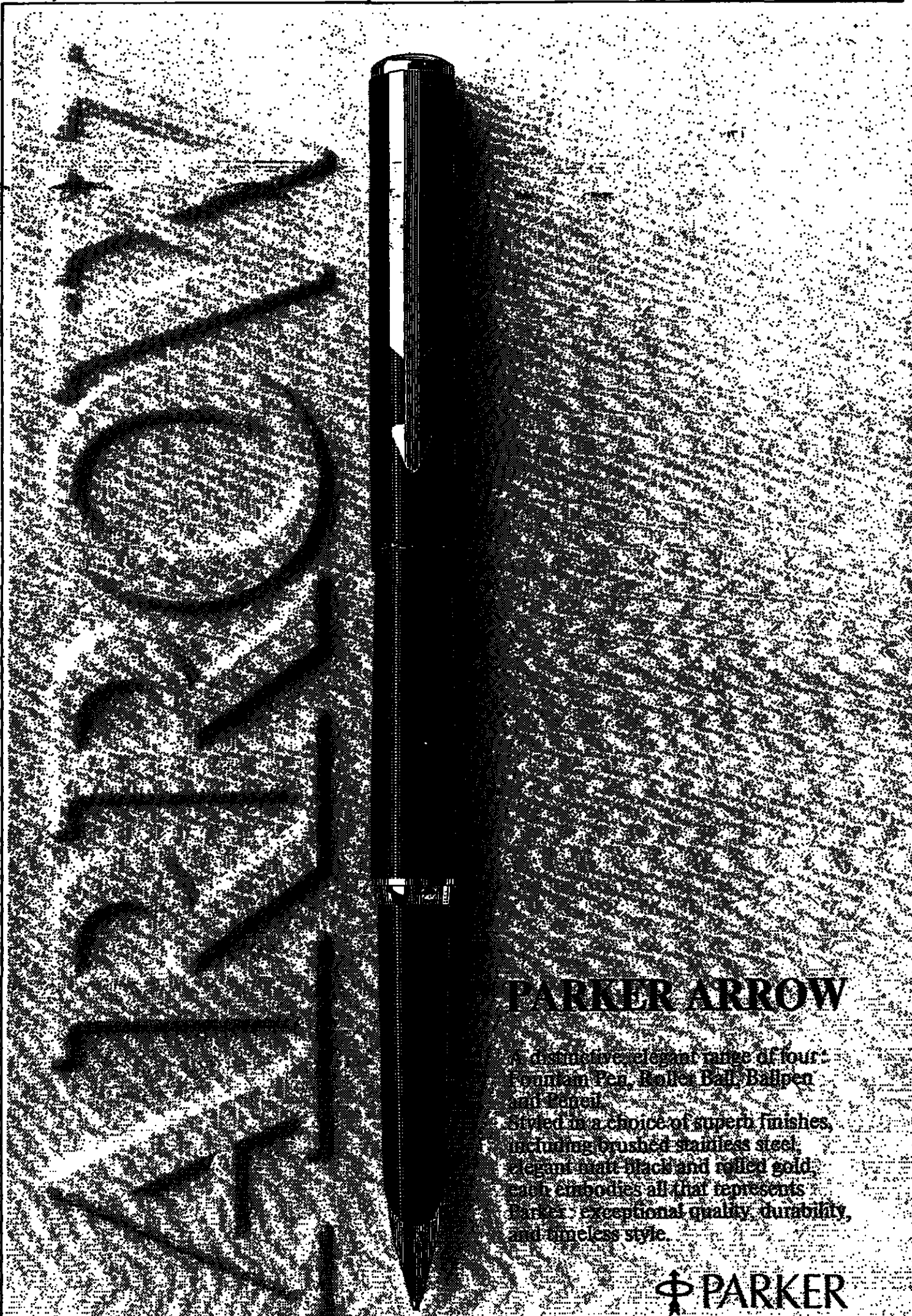
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1982 world football in retrospect

Italy took the cake as Rossi had it baked

PARIS, Dec. 26 (AFP) — The Italian sporting press can be merciless in its criticism of even the greatest of heroes, so it was hardly surprising that Paolo Rossi should have stressed so vehemently on the eve of the team's departure for the World Cup finals in Spain the words: "I am not a savior."

A month later the team returned to Rome, the World Cup firmly in their grasp, and Rossi was greeted as the new star of Italian football. He had just starred in one of the most unexpected comebacks in the history of the game.

A hat-trick against Brazil, the finest footballing nation in the world, is more than most players dare dream of. A goal in a 3-1 victory over West Germany in the World Cup final would be an unexpected bonus. And the mantle of the competition's leading scorer an ambition in the realms of fantasy for a player who returned to football less than two months before the finals.

But all these things Rossi achieved. Rarely can anyone have so deserved a World Cup winner's medal, nor taken such great pleasure in winning it. Nor could anyone deny that Rossi was football's "player of 1982." His passage was villain to hero was remarkable.

Banned for two years in 1980 for his part in the bribery scandal which shook the fabric of Italian football, Rossi played his first league game for Juventus in April and was immediately named in the World Cup squad — a selection greeted with not a little skepticism. Italy had looked far from promising in the qualifying matches, and the press was highly critical of manager Enzo Bearzot's decision to include Rossi, claiming that he could not be totally fit after such a long lay-off.

Those doubts appeared justified when Italy opened their campaign with a dull 0-0 draw against Poland in Vigo, played out a

less-than-spectacular 1-1 draw with Peru, and ended with yet another 1-1 draw against the Cameroon (one of the revelations of the tournament).

So, without a single win, Italy went into the second-round of the competition alongside Poland, to face the fearsome South American tournament favorites Brazil and defending champions Argentina. Their chances of reaching the semifinals looked very slim indeed.

So far Rossi had shown no sign of having earned his place on merit. He became the first of five players booked in a muscular encounter with Argentina, which the Italians won 2-1. The goals coming from their redoubtable hard man Marco Tardelli and Antonio Cabrini. Argentina lost more than the match.

They had Americo Gallego sent off six minutes from the end of a game notable only for the inventiveness of both sides in devising ever more blood-curdling and illegal ways to check the opposition.

Argentina's reign as world champions came to an end at the hands of their neighbors and great rivals Brazil; they were crushed 3-1 and again had a player sent off for fighting near the end. That player was the mercurial Diego Maradona, unable to contain his frustration at being the man marked out for "special" treatment in all of the matches in which he played.

Then came the showdown the world had been waiting for: Italy against Brazil, the unofficial final. Europe against South America, the contrast between consistency and flair. And what an amazing match it was.

Rossi finally blossomed into the great player he had shown glimpses of becoming in the 1978 finals in Argentina. Given just a little too much space by an over-confident Brazilian defense, Rossi glided through their

rankings time and again and scored three glorious goals to deny the world a chance to see the elegant Brazilians advance toward a place in the final — a place which had seemed theirs by right. Rossi struck first after just five minutes and it was a goal to silence the critics.

Socrates, for many the thinking man's complete footballer, equalized seven minutes later, but again the irrepressible Rossi was not to be denied his hour of glory, and he restored the lead after 24 minutes.

Zico, Socrates and Falcao all handled the renowned rugged Italian defense better than

qualify for the second round, despite beating Chile 4-1. Their final group match was against geographical neighbors Austria, with whom they share a common language.

Austria were already through to the next round, but the Germans had to win to edge Algeria out of the second qualifying position, and after Horst Hrubesch had given them the lead in the sixth minute, the game developed into high farce, with neither side willing to venture out of their own half.

Cries of "cheats" were heard all round the world, even in the normally-patriotic West



IN THE AIR: Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (right) the Bayern Munich striker, who was once again voted Germany's star soccer forward, was mainly responsible for his side's fine showing in Spain.

Maradona had done, and although their football was a delight to watch, they failed to put the finishing touches to promising moves.

Even when Falcao equalized in the 68th minute, Rossi had the measure of the Brazilians and rounded off what must have been the match of the year with a winning goal worthy of the name in the 74th minute. The scoreboard flashed the final score — 3-2 to Italy — and the world was at a loss for words.

Poland were next to fall to Rossi's artistry. A goal in each half was enough to take his total of five and his team to the final against West Germany, a pairing which could rightly be described as the most unpopular in the history of the competition.

West Germany's passage to the final had certainly been tainted with ignominy. A humiliating 2-1 defeat at the hands of an energetic Algerian side in their opening match left them in serious danger of failing to

German press. But West Germany survived to fight another day, beat Spain 2-1, draw 0-0 with England and thus line up against France in the semifinal. It is hard not to feel sorry for the French — both of 1982 vintage and that of 1978. On both occasions it would be no exaggeration to say they had been "robbed" of the success their skillful, fluent style deserved.

In 1978, against Argentina, they were beaten by an absurd penalty decision which gave the host country a 2-1 victory. In Spain, four years later, a goalkeeper's fist and penalty play-off cost them a place in the final, at the end of a breathtaking semifinal they had no right to lose.

On a balmy Seville summer night, France played some of the finest football of the competition and yet were beaten by German resilience and not a little aggression on the part of one Harald Schumacher.

The scores at 1-1, France were on the



Zico...the fleet-footed striker

ascendancy and Patrick Battiston had only been on the field for seven minutes after replacing the injured Bernard Genghini when he was knocked senseless by a vicious late tackle from Schumacher, who forcefully thrust his entire forearm at Battiston's head.

Battiston was carried off unconscious on a stretcher with a severe injury. Schumacher went unpunished, and the game went into extra-time.

France seemed assured of a place in the final after 100 minutes when they took a 3-1 lead — Marius Tresor and Alain Giresse added further goals. Ironically German manager Jupp Derwall, still smarting from the severe criticism over the Austrian match, was forced to throw cautions to the winds.

He sent on Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who was far from fully fit, and within six minutes the German captain latched on to a cross from Pierre Littbarski and stabbed the ball home.

The French made the mistake of trying to play safe for the last quarter of an hour — always a risky business with a defense as fragile as theirs often seems. With 12 minutes to go, Littbarski again sped down the right, crossed the Hrubesch whose headed back into the path of Fischer had French goalkeeper Ettore Biewersdler. Fischer hooked the ball acrobatically into the net to make the score 3-3.

Then came the cruellest blow of all, as the West Germans won the penalty play-off. At 4-4 it became sudden death and Maxime Bossis the honest, hard-working full back slammed his kick straight into the arms of Schumacher, leaving Hrubesch the task of clinching the match, which he did with clinical accuracy.

France's despair carried over their third place play-off with Poland, and they went down without much of a fight 3-2. But West Germany got what the world felt they deserved in the final, a sound beating and although the match was never a classic, it was



Schumacher...the conspicuous offender

full of incident. Captain Graziani Atognoni was injured and never started the game. Graziani retired hurt. Cabrini missed a penalty. Rossi fittingly became the tournament's leading scorer when he took his tally to six, one more than Rummenigge, with Italy's first goal. Tardelli scored a fine second and substitute Alessandro Altobelli the third before the veteran Paul Breitner hit a consolation for the Germans.

But what of those who fell by the wayside, the likes of Cameroon, England and Algeria, all unlucky not to travel further, or El Salvador and Chile, who bore the brunt of some ruthless finishing, or Honduras and Northern Ireland who were, along with Cameroon and Algeria, the surprise successes of the tournament.

If Algeria could claim they were robbed of a place in the second round by an Austro-German conspiracy, Cameroon and England were both unlucky to fall victim to the structure of the competition.

Cameroon remained unbeaten after successive draws against Peru, Poland and Italy, displayed the goalkeeper of the tournament in Thomas N'Kono (who was subsequently signed up by Spanish First Division club Espanol) yet still did not reach the second round as they had scored one goal fewer than Italy, who themselves had found the net only twice.

England, who scored the fastest-ever World Cup goal when Robson netted in their opening match against France after just 27 seconds, remained unbeaten throughout the second round but then literally ran out of steam. Convincing victories over France and Czechoslovakia, a stroll against Kuwait and England were pitched in with Spain and West Germany in the second round.

Needless to say, the rest of the year was played out very much in the shadow of the World Cup. It was, however, the year that a wiry Argentine World Cup hero, the man billed as the new Pelé, Diego Maradona, made his entry into European football.



Rossi...from a villain to a hero



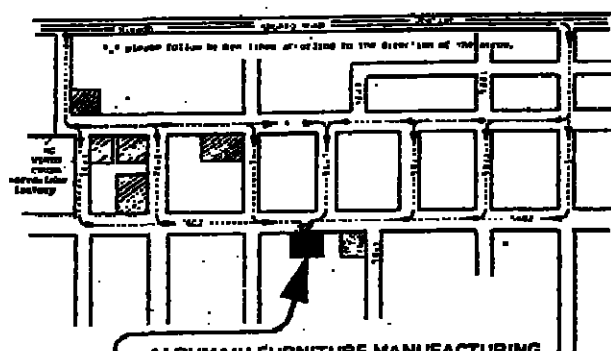
Maradona...the fallen star



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As other batsmen flop

Tavare, Lamb rescue England

MELBOURNE, Dec. 26 (AP) — A masterly fourth-wicket partnership of 161 between Chris Tavare and Allan Lamb saved England from total disaster on the first day of the fourth Test against Australia at the Melbourne Cricket Ground Sunday.

Needing to win this encounter to have any chance of saving the Ashes, the tourists' first innings ended at the close for a disappointing 284. Apart from Tavare and Lamb, England again showed little pluck at the crease, with the middle-order caving in on the new Melbourne Cricket Ground Test strip.

Australian skipper Greg Chappell won the toss and dictated terms throughout most of the day. It was the third occasion he had sent the England lineup into bat — and for the second time, the move proved right.

There is no rest day in this fourth Test, but Willis must have felt that some of his batsmen took one Sunday. But he could have no quarrel with Tavare and Lamb, who for a time took the attack apart in a defiant, courageous stand.

Openers Geoff Cook and Graeme Fowler were tentative, vice-captain David Gower

had one of his few failures of the series and Ian Botham was again followed by his usual batting "bogey".

Chappell passed Bob Simpson's record number of 110 Test catches when he caught Cook off the bowling of Jeff Thomson. Playing his 81st Test, Chappell reached the record when he caught Fowler off new-ball speedster Rodney Hogg. Simpson gathered his catches in 62 Tests.

| Score-board | |
|---|-----|
| England (1st innings): | |
| G. Cook c Chappell b Thomson | 10 |
| G. Fowler c Chappell b Hogg | 4 |
| C. Gower c Yardley b Thomson | 89 |
| D. Gaver c March b Hogg | 18 |
| A. Lamb c Dyson b Yardley | 83 |
| I. Botham c Wessels b Yardley | 27 |
| G. Miller c Beardsley b Yardley | 10 |
| D. Pringle c Wessels b Hogg | 9 |
| R. Taylor c Marsh b Yardley | 1 |
| R. Willis not out | 6 |
| N. Cowans c Lawson b Hogg | 3 |
| Extras | 24 |
| Total: | 284 |
| Fall of wickets: 1-11, 2-25, 3-56, 4-217, 5-227, 6-259, 7-262, 8-268, 9-278. | |
| Bowling: G. Lawson 17-6-48-0; R. Hogg 23-3-6-69-4; R. Yardley 27-9-89-4; J. Thomson 13-2-49-2; G. Chappell 1-0-5-0. | |

It was a bumper financial day for Australian cricket, with a crowd of 64,081 blocking the entrances to the ground early in the day and forcing Victorian officials to order the MCG gates to be opened early Monday.

Tavare, in an innings sometimes out of character, produced some fine scoring shots on the way to his 89, which came in 247 minutes and included 15 boundaries. His partner Lamb hit an aggressive 83 in 160 minutes with 13 fours, to display the form which he has been displaying throughout the tour.

Both decided that too much respect was being given to the pacemen and spinner Yardley — Tavare took five fours from seven deliveries in two overs from Yardley — and the 100 partnership came up in 94 minutes.

They took a struggling England from 56 for two at lunch to 183 for three by tea and it was only when Yardley made a brilliant gully catch from Tavare off Jeff Thomson that Australia breathed easily again. But England fell apart in the final session, with seven wickets crashing for 101 runs.



FOOTBALL BATTLE: Frank Hardin (19) an Eastern Kentucky University's defensive back leaps over Paul Hanson (39) of the University of Delaware, an effort to intercept the ball during the Pioneer Bowl in Wichita Falls recently. ECU's Anthony Jones (right) also failed to intercept the ball.

Leeds hold Oldham in rough tie

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AP) — One player was sent off and six others booked as Oldham and Leeds United showed little festive spirit in one of only two English League Soccer matches played Sunday.

The second Division match ended in a 2-2 draw in front of a crowd of 15,658 at Boundary Park.

Oldham led in each half, through Roy Palmer and John Ryan, but Leeds equalized with goals from Kenny Burns and John Sheridan. Leeds played the second half with only 10 men after Gwyn Thomas was sent off for a foul.

A Keith Houchen goal gave Orient a 1-0 victory over Millwall in a Third Division match at the Den. Full English League soccer programs are scheduled both Monday and Tuesday.

Gross, the champ with graceful strokes

WEST GERMANY, Dec. 26 — Michael Gross from Frankfurt, twofold gold medalist of Guayaquil in Ecuador, is just two meters tall, slender and weighs only 83 kilograms.

After a mediocre performance at an international swimming event in February, the German Swimming Union demoted him to the second team, and at one stage it was not certain that he would even be nominated for the World Championships. But Michael Gross was undismayed and, knowing that he was on the right course, he — with the help of his trainer Peter Pinck — made it on his own. And he proved triumphantly that he was right: two gold medals and one silver in the individual events, and two bronze medals in the relay races.

Michael Gross, who turned 18 only six weeks before the Championships started, is not and never has been an extrovert. He is a modest person, "anti-arrogant" — as somebody wrote of him after his return — and hates being the focus of attention. He would have preferred to slip out of Frankfurt Airport unnoticed through a rear exit. When he won his first gold medal in Guayaquil, in the 200 meters freestyle event, he raised his left arm in the air in triumph. But after winning the 200 meters butterfly event — ahead of the American swimmer Craig Beardsley, who had not been beaten for two years — he did not make any show of joy. Gross is a person of great self-control.

There was every reason to make a fuss of him, though, because no other swimmer from the Federal Republic of Germany has ever been so successful. The German Swimming Union had hitherto recorded only one World Championship title in an individual discipline. Gross is an outstanding stylist who can convert muscular power into graceful, smooth movement. He makes it all look so easy as he glides through the water. Only an expert eye can detect what this swimmer really has in him. Mark Spitz, winner of seven gold medals for the United States at the 1972 Munich Olympics, confidently predicts: "He will be one of the great names."

The press — not just in the Federal Republic of Germany — had the same comments to make. This was not to the liking of the man whose name was in the headlines. For Gross, who won the 1981 European Championship title and holds both the European records in the butterfly events, is something of an introvert. With the unusually high IQ rating of 161, he thinks very carefully before he does anything — even in sports.

His first step is always to deliberate and

Cash makes exit

ADELAIDE, Australia, Dec. 26 (AP) — The speed of Australian Chris Johnstone will be pitted against the power of American Mike Bauer in the final of the \$75,000 South Australian Open on Monday.

Johnstone has speed around the court, but the 21-year-old Californian has strung together an impressive list of victories in Adelaide and his power game looks hard to beat.

On Sunday, Bauer outlasted the world's No. 1 junior, Pat Cash of Australia, 6-7, 7-6, 6-3, while Johnstone ousted Brod Dyke of Australia 7-6, 6-3.

analyze meticulously. Once he is convinced that a decision is right — and it is part of the job of Peter Pinck from North Germany to help him make up his mind — then he develops an iron will. The experts agree that no other German swimmer has ever shown such resolution. He fights his way so success-motivated purely by his own love of swimming.

"As soon as I stop enjoying it, I'll quit," he says repeatedly. After his successes at the World Championships, the thought of the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles should give him added impetus to go on enjoying swimming. Of course, he knows that sooner or later he will have passed the peak of his powers. But this has obviously not happened yet. And for a personality like his the thought of testing his limits is clearly intriguing.

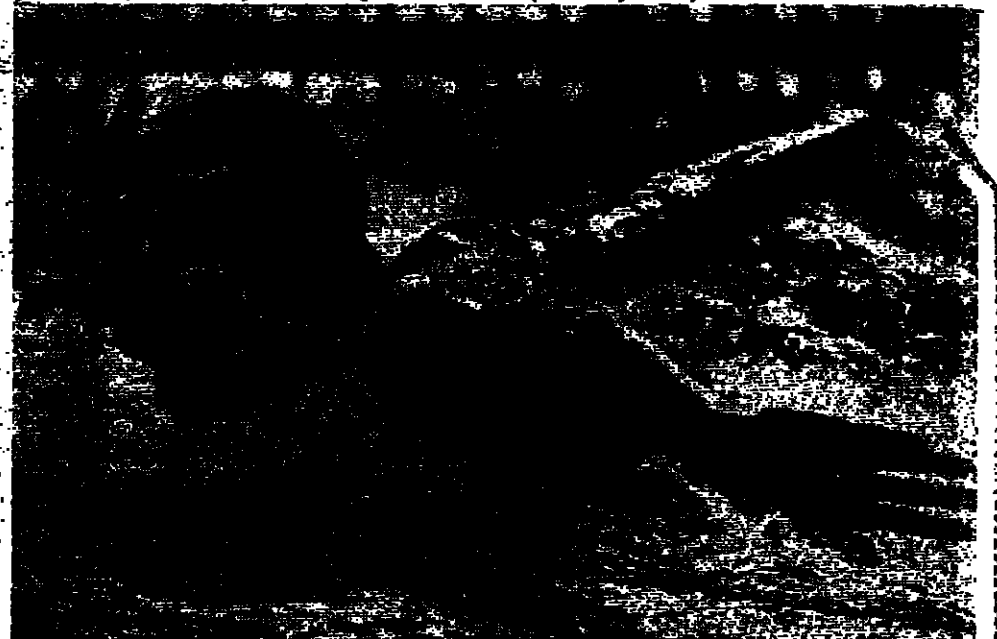
Gross has often enough demonstrated his self-assurance and steady nerves — qualities he possesses to a degree which still surprises even his parents. Prior to the 1980 Olympic Games he swam 100 meters butterfly in 54.69 seconds at a meet in Toronto. On paper, this time would have won him the gold medal in Moscow. But as it turned out, the Federal Republic of Germany boycotted those Olympics. The 16-year-old swimmer's reaction at the time was typical: "I don't care. If I'm still in competitive swimming in four years' time, I'll still be young enough to make

up for anything I've missed out on."

He has not changed since then. In Guayaquil, when the U.S. team announced to the press that Beardsley would swim the 200 meters butterfly in 1'58", Gross told his mother: "That's too fast for me — I'll have to make do with the silver medal." On the last length, when Beardsley closed in for the final attack, Gross put on a last burst of speed and won in 1'58.85."

The champion was originally discovered in a voluntary swimming class in school. The big breakthrough came in 1978, when he gained a place in the competitive team of his club EOSC Offenbach and traveled with his parents to the World Championships in West Berlin. "Both events were a terrific impetus for him," says trainer Pinck. He doubts whether Michael Gross could ever have achieved what he has on his own, without being part of a team. Other contributory factors are that his family life is a happy one and that his social environment is still intact. His parents have always attached great importance to their only son's sporting ambitions without being obsessed with success.

On his return home, he relaxed a little at a small garden party the same afternoon. He brought out his five medals to show his club colleagues and school friends. Then he carefully wrapped the ribbons round them again and tucked them away — in his jeans pocket. (Courtesy Scala)



ON WAY TO NEW MARK: Michael Gross in action during the 200 meters butterfly event, which gave him second gold in Guayaquil.

Canadians begin on impressive note

LENINGRAD, Dec. 26 (APF) — Holders Canada beat West Germany 4-0 in the first Group 'A' match of the Junior World Ice Hockey Championships here Sunday.

The Canadians survived a hard-fought, but goalless first period, and went on to score three times in the second period and once in the third and final period.

With honors even after the first period, the impressive approach play of Mark Morrison spurred the Canadians on to three goals in the second period, as their swift and direct style

of play paid off, delighting the crowd of 7,000.

Turgeon opened the scoring in the 22nd minute after a pass from Andreychuk, who got his own name on the scoresheet eight minutes later when he slammed the ball home after taking a pass from Verbeek.

Verbeek scored the third in the 32nd minute, after good work by Eagles, and in the third period, Turgeon again found the net in the 42nd minute, once more accepting a pass from Andreychuk.

For the first time in the Kingdom

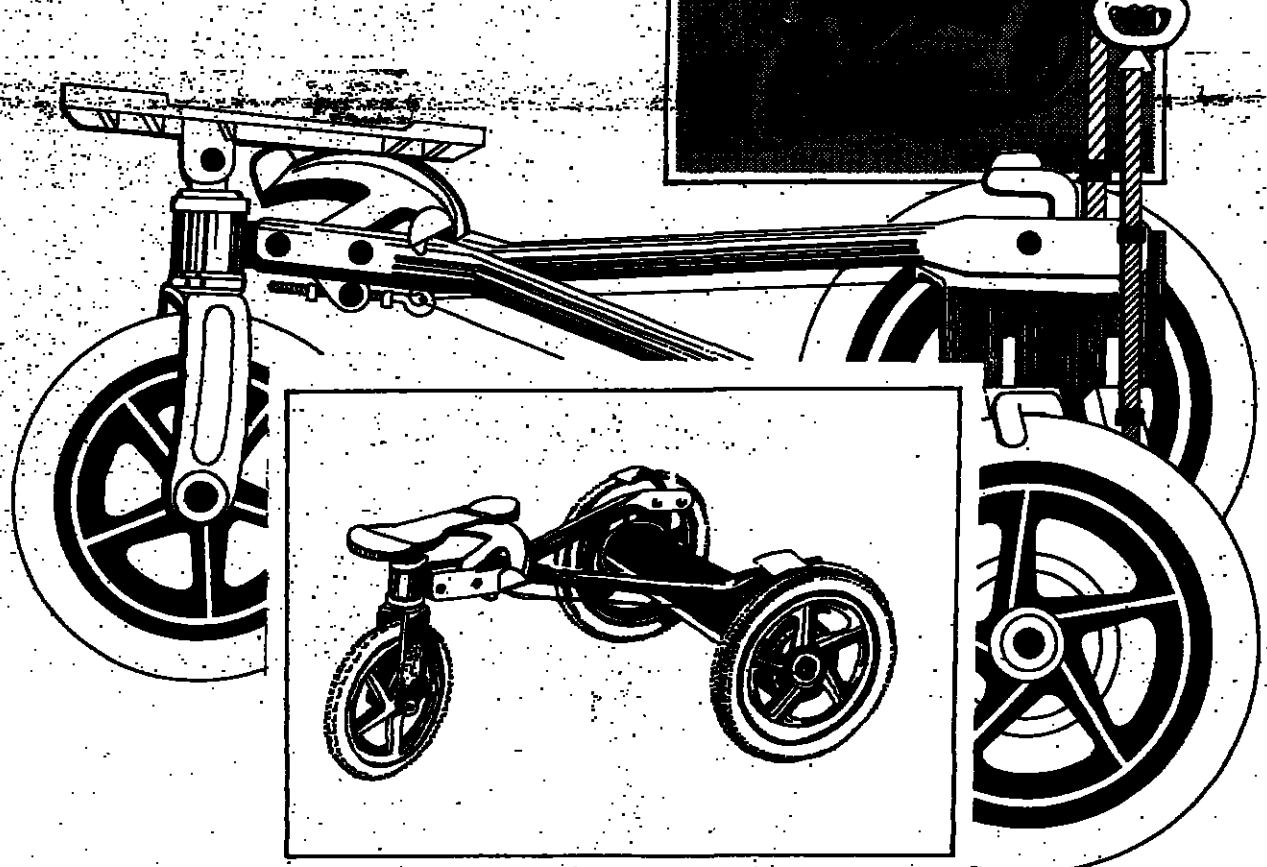
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Calls Soviets great

Moscow gets warm Peking greetings

MOSCOW, Dec. 26 (R) — The Communist Party daily *Pravda* Sunday published an unusually warm message from the Chinese government which diplomats said indicated a degree of willingness to continue normalization talks.

The message headed a series of greetings to Kremlin leaders from other countries and parties on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, and included a rare reference to "the great Soviet peoples." The message said: "China sincerely hopes to bring about gradual normalization and establish good-neighborly relations between our countries." This, it said, would help develop traditional friendship between the Soviet and Chinese peoples and would be in the interests of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

"Both sides must take practical steps to remove obstacles by means of consultations, applying joint efforts to achieve this goal," *Pravda* quoted the message as saying. Main obstacles to normal relations between Moscow and Peking are the presence of more than one million Soviet troops along the Sino-Soviet and Sino-Mongolian borders, the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan

and its support for Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea.

Western diplomats said the reference to "joint efforts" might indicate Peking was no longer insisting that only the Soviet side would have to take some conciliatory move.

A hint of the Kremlin's readiness to compromise came from Viktor Afanasyev, the editor of *Pravda*, when he told Japanese journalists in Moscow after the funeral of President Brezhnev that it was possible the two sides might agree to a joint reduction of troops along their border. Diplomats see this as the easiest of the obstacles to overcome. Elsewhere the gulf appears as wide as ever.

Last week, *Tass* published a fierce attack on China which condemned Peking's inclusion of the Kampuchean question among conditions for an improvement in ties with Moscow. On Afghanistan, *Pravda* has said troops will be withdrawn only if "foreign interference" ended and guarantees were given that it would not resume.

Soviet Communist Party chief Yuri Andropov has pledged to continue efforts initiated by the late Brezhnev to improve his country's relations with Peking after 20 years of bitter feuding.

Chinese uncover drug fraud

PEKING, Dec. 26 (AFP) — A major fraud involving the manufacture of traditional Chinese medicine was recently uncovered in central China. *The Worker's Daily* reported Saturday. The main culprit, Li Zhenke, a peasant from a Henan commune, was arrested and six top local officials were made to go through self-criticism sessions, the paper said.

Encouraged by the commune's deputy secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, a few years ago Li began making a medicine for rheumatism according to a traditional Chinese formula.

However, lacking in medical knowledge, Li substituted the formula's tiger bone, a very rare ingredient, with a fruit containing the poison strychnine and generally used to induce vomiting. He then affixed a fake medical seal on the bottles, soon making about 5,700 yuan (\$2,960).

Tempted by the high profits, commune officials decided in September, 1979, to set up a Chinese medicinal factory with Li as manager. While continuing production of his anti-rheumatic drug, Li branched out into making more medicines.

The factory thus made nearly \$200,000 in profits and \$140,000 was spent on the commune in bribes, special grants and new homes, the newspaper said. Li pocketed over \$7,300.

The newspaper stressed that a number of district officials had failed to respond to consumers' complaints but had instead cited the factory as the region's model enterprise. The paper did not say if the medicines had harmful effects on the consumers.

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O'Neill determined to give Reagan bitter fight

By Robert Cheslayre

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (ONS) — If there were such a role as leader of a "loyal opposition" in the American Constitution, it would be occupied by Tip O'Neill, who, on the brink of a new Congress, is firmly established as the second most powerful politician in the U.S.

Frustrated, scorned, humiliated and written off a mere 15 months ago after Reagan had driven his economic programs roughshod through Congress, O'Neill now rides high in the saddle — a potent and highly visible symbol of all those New Deal values that Reagan tried to consign to the lumber-room of history.

A House of Representatives, that once lay down and played dead when Reagan whistled, reassembles next month with 26 more Democrats than in the present House — giving Speaker O'Neill (speaker means majority leader, not impartial umpire) the comfortable cushion of a 103-seat majority — and in the mood to listen more to their constituents, wracked by unemployment and recession, than to calls from the White House for Reaganomics and big defense spending.

Already in the current "lame duck" session, the House has rejected the MX missile and passed an O'Neill-inspired \$5.4 billion job-creation bill, which runs wholly counter to the Reagan philosophy of getting government out of the market place and off the backs of the people. While Reagan believes that government is the problem, O'Neill believes that government should solve the problem.

The clash last week between the White House and Congress — which may end in a presidential veto of a money measure



"Tip" O'Neill

necessary to keep the government running, because O'Neill's Democrats have attached to it all manner of legislative bits and pieces — is but a forerunner of the bitter warfare that lies ahead unless the president is prepared to introduce some pretty severe "mid-course" corrections.

It is a measure of how the face of American politics has changed that most of the talk now is of compromise by the President rather than by the speaker. What is equally remarkable is that the polarization of American politics should be so neatly personified by two men who in many ways have an enormous amount in common. Both are septagenarians (O'Neill turned 70 this month); both are of Irish extraction and proud of it; both came from deep Democratic roots, and both grew to be men during the great depression; both are large and likeable, good with people, though sometimes a little short on factual detail; both tell a good tale, and are prepared to like one

another — superficially at least — after 6 p.m.

But, while Reagan took the high road to wealth and movie stardom, O'Neill plunged as a teenager into the smoke-filled, arm-twisting, back-slapping, lever-pulling world of Boston Irish Democratic politics, which in a sense he has never left. He became a Democrat as he became a Catholic — through inheritance.

Government, O'Neill believes, exists to stretch a hand down and pull people up, and friends exist to help one another. In honor of this code, O'Neill has occasionally taken political risks — for example, arranging a pension for a jailed former politician so that his widow would not be left destitute.

While Reagan had a vision of the American pioneer spirit released once again to soar above the grinding problems that were eating like moths into the national self-confidence, O'Neill offered compassion for the hardest hit and big spending remedies. One of the Republican Party's most effective 1980 advertisements showed two actors, made up as Jimmy Carter and Tip O'Neill, driving a car that runs out of gas. "Repeal O'Neill" was the slogan of young Republican Turks who flocked to Washington with Reagan.

The '80 election was not a Conservative mandate, but the rejection of Jimmy Carter. An aide commented: "All through '81, Tip said that the last innings of the game would be played in November '82 (when the mid-term elections were held), and that by then the Democrats would be in pretty good shape." And so it has proved: there is an Irish sparkle back in O'Neill's eyes, and a confident rasp to his voice.

"You would think," O'Neill said one

morning last week before ascending the swivel chair from which he rules his House "that anyone with the power and responsibility of the president, would have some charity at a time like this." And he talked of the "needy and unemployed out there," contrasting their plight with the money Reagan wants to spend on the MX missile.

It is simplistic stuff, though not more so than the president's anecdote-based politics, but it is once again beginning to be in tune with the times: as he spoke, destitute families were lining up nearby to give evidence to the first congressional committee to consider American homelessness in 50 years. There are two million Americans without a proper roof over their heads, and their cause is being driven home daily on television and in the press. The harshest charge that O'Neill has made against Reagan is that the president has forgotten his roots. It was O'Neill who shaped the issues for the mid-term campaign — fairness, unemployment and social security.

O'Neill will certainly stay above the battle for the Democratic nomination, and although in his Boston Irish heart he is a Kennedy man, his instincts, scarcely touched by ideological or intellectual considerations, are for a winner. Even before Ted Kennedy withdrew, his friends were suggesting that he perceives such a winner in Senator John Glenn the former astronaut.

He himself is but two heart beats from the presidency, in that should the president and the vice-president depart the scene together, the speaker becomes president. But the possibility doesn't appear to cross his mind, and it is not something he would ever have sought.

Two sailors detained for murder

CAGLIARI, Sardinia, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Italian authorities arrested a Greek and a Filipino sailor here Sunday in connection with the murder of another Filipino sailor aboard a Sardinia-bound freighter.

Italian police boarded the Greek freighter *Nimer Sky* at Sant'Antioco, Sardinia, and arrested Senieto Villacite, a 29-year-old Filipino sailor, and Mikhail Michaloutsos, a 19-year-old Greek sailor, in connection with the murder of Lamberto Geminiano, a 25-year-old Filipino.

Authorities found Geminiano half-naked and with a knife stuck in his side and multiple wounds on his body. The arrested Greek sailor had badly cut hands.

Authorities have begun investigating the reason for the crime and the possible participation of other crew members. The *Nimer Sky*, which had a crew of seven Greeks and seven Filipinos, was carrying a load of aluminum from Naples to Cagliari.

Marcos rivals assail arrest

MANILA, Dec. 26 (AFP) — Opposition sources Sunday warned that the arrest of a top opposition leader in the central Philippines Saturday could mark the beginning of a government crackdown against the legal opposition.

The national chairman of the Philippine Democratic Party-Laban (PDP-Laban), Luis Jose, told AFP that his party was drafting a statement expressing "concern at the arrest of one of our top leaders signaling the start of a crackdown aimed at the legal opposition".

"Labor, the students, the church and the press have all had their turn. Now it seems it is our turn," Jose said.

The PDP-Laban secretary-general for central Philippines, Rebomapi Orgapza, his

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AFP) — The U.S. House of Representatives is worried about a project aiming to register by FBI computers people suspected of presenting a threat to government officials. The *New York Times* reported Saturday.

It said that the house subcommittee on civil and constitutional rights, in a letter to U.S. attorney-general William French Smith, expressed "serious reservations" about the project. The letter followed approval by

21-year-old son and party council member and radio commentator Dr. Filemon Alberca were arrested together with four alleged Communist New People's Army rebels, three of them said to be field commanders.

News reports Sunday said those detained were allegedly meeting to plot the killing of provincial and military leaders when they were arrested.

Jose denied that Orgapza was a Communist dissident and said that he doubted "very much" that the allegations were true.

The central Philippines PDP-Laban chairman, Antonio Cuenco, said the suspects were being held incommunicado while the three alleged commanders were in hospital after being wounded during the raid.

FBI computer job worries House

Smith of a project that would allow the U.S. secret service — which is responsible for the physical security of the president and senior administration officials — to use computers of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to list anyone remotely suspected of constituting a potential risk to the lives of the people it is protecting.

In its letter, the subcommittee questioned the legality of tracking down mere suspects and asked that the question be reviewed under the angle of civil rights it might infringe upon. The *New York Times* said. The FBI computer's normal function is "to keep tabs on criminals."

Paris firm of ex-kidnap victim bombed

PARIS, Dec. 26 (AP) — An explosion Sunday ripped through a business owned by Baron Edouard-Jean Empain, one of the richest industrialists in Europe and a former kidnapping victim whose trial ended nine days ago.

There were no injuries in the explosion that occurred at 6 a.m. (0500 GMT) in the 19th district of Paris on the left bank of the Seine River, police said. Police were attempting to determine if the explosion was linked to the guilty verdicts returned Dec. 17 against eight persons accused of complicity in Empain's kidnapping five years ago.

Empain, 45, was abducted on Jan. 23, 1978 and held for 63 days, hooded and chained in a makeshift indoor tent in a suburban Paris home. The handsome nobleman never saw the faces of his captors, who cut off the tip of Empain's little finger during the ordeal and sent it to his family.

Officials said the explosion Sunday seriously damaged the ground-level offices of "Air Materiel," a 12-person military equipment sales firm that was recently created by Empain. Several parked cars near the firm also were damaged, police said. After the explosion, authorities said they contacted Empain at the Alpine resort.

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| Belgrade | 12 | 54 | 16 | 61 | cloudy | | |
| Bombay | 18 | 64 | 29 | 84 | clear | | |
| Brussels | 9 | 48 | 17 | 63 | cloudy | | |
| Budapest | 0 | 32 | 3 | 37 | cloudy | | |
| Buenos Aires | 1 | 34 | 3 | 37 | overcast | | |
| Cairo | 4 | 39 | 7 | 45 | overcast | | |
| Cebu | 23 | 77 | 35 | 95 | clear | | |
| Colon | 10 | 50 | 23 | 73 | cloudy | | |
| Copenhagen | 20 | 68 | 28 | 82 | sunny | | |
| Dublin | 9 | 48 | 18 | 64 | cloudy | | |
| Helsinki | 3 | 37 | 6 | 43 | cloudy | | |
| Hong Kong | 7 | 45 | 11 | 52 | cloudy | | |
| Kuala Lumpur | 1 | 34 | 2 | 36 | rain | | |
| London | -5 | 23 | 3 | 37 | clear | | |
| Los Angeles | 3 | 37 | 3 | 37 | rain | | |
| Madrid | 0 | 32 | 3 | 37 | clear | | |
| Manila | 19 | 66 | 32 | 90 | clear | | |
| Miami | 24 | 74 | 24 | 75 | clear | | |
| Montreal | -1 | 30 | 6 | 43 | cloudy | | |
| Moscow | -2 | 28 | 3 | 37 | cloudy | | |
| New Delhi | 7 | 45 | 22 | 72 | clear | | |
| New York | 5 | 41 | 15 | 59 | rain | | |
| Oslo | -1 | 30 | 0 | 32 | clear | | |
| Paris | 8 | 46 | 9 | 48 | clear | | |
| Peking | -5 | 23 | 4 | 39 | clear | | |
| Rio de Janeiro | 20 | 68 | 36 | 97 | cloudy | | |
| Rome | 5 | 41 | 12 | 54 | clear | | |
| San Francisco | 5 | 45 | 12 | 54 | cloudy | | |
| Santiago | 15 | 59 | 29 | 84 | clear | | |
| Seoul | -4 | 25 | 3 | 37 | cloudy | | |
| Singapore | 23 | 73 | 29 | 84 | rain | | |
| Stockholm | 0 | 32 | 3 | 37 | cloudy | | |
| Taipei | 11 | 52 | 14 | 57 | cloudy | | |
| Tokyo | 5 | 41 | 9 | 48 | rain | | |
| Toronto | 8 | 46 | 16 | 61 | cloudy | | |
| Vancouver | 4 | 39 | 7 | 45 | rain | | |
| Vienna | 0 | 32 | 3 | 38 | cloudy | | |

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